

THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL

Devoted Exclusively to Bee Culture.

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Editor's Table.

☞ Salicylic acid is said to prevent honey fermenting when used in the proportion of one-fourth of an ounce of the acid to 30 pounds of honey.

☞ All that is necessary to create a demand for honey is to place information before the people. Get some pamphlets, "Honey as Food and Medicine," and scatter them among your friends, and a demand will, no doubt, spring up that will take all your surplus honey to satisfy. Try it and see.

☞ Friend Ira Wilson, of Lodi, N. Y., says that Mr. Miller, in that vicinity, has patented the Quinby hive, and asks if he can collect a royalty of those who have been using it for years. The Quinby has been before the public too long to be patented at this date. Friend Wilson need not hesitate to make and use them, if he desires.

☞ In shipping honey, be sure to turn the top bar downwards; this will often save it from being broken down and leaky. Many boxes or sections are not built quite down to the bottom bar. In transit these will be almost sure to break down if shipped the same way up as when standing on the hive.



Lessons from the Statistical Table.

Two hundred persons reported having 8,200 colonies last fall, sustaining a loss in wintering of one-fourteenth, or 649 in all. The increase on these have been 66 per cent., making a total this fall of 12,474 colonies—an average of 63 to each person.

Five-elevenths were wintered on the summer stands (3446), but only one-third of these were packed in chaff (1273). The winter was an open one and wintering on the summer stands was preferable.

Now as to the results: there were 150,000 pounds of comb honey produced, to 238,000 pounds of extracted— $\frac{1}{2}$ of comb to $\frac{1}{2}$ of extracted—by the 12,000 colonies reported. This gives an average of only 32 pounds per colony, showing it to have been on the whole an exceedingly poor year. The cold, damp spring, with other detrimental periods, cutting off much of the honey gathering.

The wax secured being only a quarter of a pound to each colony. It seems to us that Thurber & Co. will have a poor show to get the ten tons per month to supply that Candle house in Europe.

☞ Last month we suggested that the National Society should be requested to offer medals as prizes to be awarded in its name, at the honey and bee shows of the different State and district Associations within its limits. We requested bee-keepers to send us their opinion of the suggestion. The responses have been universally in favor of it, and we have no doubt but that the National Society will give the subject their best attention.

PENNY PACKAGES.—We have received a case of six of J. H. Martin's new boxes for putting up pure candied honey for the children. They hold 4 ounces of honey and sell for 10 cents each. The box is made of hard wood, coated inside with paraffine; a label with cut of a queen bee is on the cover, and a stinger which is suddenly thrust against the finger if you persist in fooling with the tail which projects from

the side of the box. After the stinger is sprung it can be reset by pushing in with the thumb nail, and used again. Those who want to create a market for their candied honey should send to Mr. Martin for his circular and get some boxes, and see what can be done in that direction.

What shall the Harvest be?

Saugatuck, Mich., Sept. 18, 1878.

FRIEND NEWMAN:—Now that the fall crop of honey has been gathered, and bee-keepers are contemplating how best to dispose of their honey, would it not be well for you to give us in your October issue, in as concise form as possible, the outlook for the honey market, especially in Chicago? What may we expect from California? How will their crop affect us? And as nearly as data will allow, let us know how the crop is in each of the principal honey-producing States, and how prices will range. In this immediate vicinity white honey is very light, but during the first week of this month bees did "immense" on golden rod.

WALTER B. HOUSE.

The honey market in Chicago is good. Prices are ruling lower than formerly, but the demand is increasing steadily. Light honey, in neat single-comb packages, will sell readily. The producer finds ready sale for all that is put up attractively. As the cold weather approaches, extracted honey will be more in demand.

All the good honey produced this year can be sold readily; that of poor quality only will drag. California will help us out a little but her crop is mostly "extracted." Manufacturers are using the extracted more than ever, and we think the "show" for it is excellent. As to prices, the curious can compare them by the aid of the Honey Market in another column.

☞ Friend W. H. Ware, Bayou Goula, La., suggests, that the next meeting of the National Society, shall be in the West, and the following one in the South, either in July or Dec. and adds:

"I am sure that such a plan would meet with substantial approval and support from our bee-keepers in the south, and would do more than anything else, to encourage and develop the bee-keeping interests throughout the whole country. I think well of your suggestions, that the National Society inaugurate an exhibition of manipulations with bees, as well as of apiarian supplies, and honey. Now, in case this plan should be adopted, and a meeting held in New Orleans, I will donate say, 6 colonies of pure Italian bees to be used on the occasion, and then to be sold to the highest bidder, for the benefit of the society."

Sundry Questions and Answers.

Sedan, Kansas, Aug. 24, 1878.

Will a nucleus colony grow into a full one the first season, under favorable circumstances?

What course should I pursue to secure the greatest number of good, strong colonies from one, in a single season?

RICHARD S. TURNER.

[Yes; a nucleus colony will grow into a good strong colony, under even ordinary circumstances.

To secure the greatest increase, practice division of the colony, according to directions given in a good manual. We have too often described the manner of doing it to warrant our taking up space of the JOURNAL for a repetition.—ED.]

Council Grove, Kan., Sept. 16., 1878.

I enclose a flower for name. It equally shares the attention of the bees with golden rod, and blooms profusely.

D. P. NORTON.

[This is a species of *Eupatorium*, or Boneset. It is illustrated in the Manual, page 241.—A. J. COOK.]

Mineral Point, Mo., Sept. 7, 1878.

Please find a flower that bees work on and is very abundant here in uncultivated fields. Please give the name in the next issue of the JOURNAL, and say if it is a good honey plant.

E. B. DAY.

[This is a *Eupatorium* or boneset. It is figured in Manual page 241. All of the *Eupatoriums* are excellent honey plants.—A. J. COOK.]

Please name this flower.,

M. H. MILSTER.

[*Eupatorium* or boneset, figured in Manual, page 241.—A. J. COOK.]

Ligonier, Pa., Aug. 16, 1878.

Enclosed please find an insect, found on a cucumber tree that stands in a field. The bees are on the tree from morning till dark, and you can see a mist falling from it. The leaves are covered with a sweet substance like honey-dew. I send it to you to name.

WM. ASHCOT.

[The insects are the same as described in September AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL,

NAL, page 308, or *Lecanium tulipiferae*. It is not strange that they should also infest the cucumber tree (*magnolia acuminata*), as it belongs to the same family (*magnolia*) as does the tulip tree, *Liriodendron tulipifera*.—A. J. COOK.]

St. Mary's, Ind., Sept. 7, 1878.

I enclose a small branch or two of a weed that grows very extensively here. It is considered one of the greatest pests as a weed. It is a perennial, and takes possession of ground very rapidly. I find the bees working very extensively on it to day, for the first time in my life. Please give the name and its uses, if any.

Long live the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL and its Editors, with the addition of health and prosperity.

THOMAS J. WARD, J. P.

[This is a *Solidago* or golden rod. I cannot give the species without more of the stem, but I presume it is the very one figured on page 243 of Manual.—A. J. COOK.]

☞ Much of the Honey this season is very thin and watery, and needs a good deal of ripening to make it fit for market. If not ripened, much of it may spoil in the fall.

TO STRANGERS VISITING THE CITY.

—The *Madison street Cars* pass our office every minute of the day. We will always be glad to see you, and if you are interested in bees or honey, you will neither regret the journey nor time occupied in looking over our Museum.

FRIEND NEWMAN: Our little "Chip"—whose advent you put in A. B. J.—passed to the other life last night.

D. D. PALMER.

New Boston, Ill., Sept. 16, 1878.

"We deeply sympathize with friend Palmer—surely all "chips" do fly away. May this one "rest in peace" on "the evergreen shore."—ED.]

☞ So far, no one has dared to take up the gauntlet thrown down by friend Moon, in the last JOURNAL, about queens duplicating themselves.



The "Old Reliable" abroad.

The following letter speaks for itself:

New York, Aug. 9, 1878.
 "An order for Honey from Algiers, in French Africa, is just received, and the letter says that our address was obtained from THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL.
 H. K. & F. B. THURBER & Co."

It is with much satisfaction that we point to our extensive and wide-spread circulation, as an evidence of the fact that the *old* AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL has lost none of the prestige or influence created for it by its late lamented editor and publisher, Mr. Samuel Wagner.

Not only is the BEE JOURNAL a welcome visitor at thousands of homes, embracing every State and Territory of the United States, but also in the Canadas and States of the South American Continent! It leaps the bounds of the Oceans, making regular visits to England, Scotland, Wales, Germany, France, Austria, Italy, Belgium and other European countries. It meets a hearty welcome in Africa, as may be seen by the above letter. Flying past the great African desert, and the glories of Ancient Egypt with its interesting Pyramids, and Palestine with its many sacred places—beyond the Indian Ocean it plants a "Star of Progress" in that vast continent of Australia—and then, pointing to the refulgent light of science enveloping with a halo of glory, that insect whose fame reaches back to the natal-day of our planet, as well as pointing forward to the glory of the enlightened "world of the future"—it bounds back to

"The land of the free, and the home of the brave."

—rejoicing in the fact that its patrons and friends encircle a world,—while "the Sun never sets" on the lands embraced in its sway—

"Visiting the shores, one by one—
 Nearly all beneath the Sun."

It is exceedingly gratifying to remark that the depression, which has been so wide-spread, has not materially hindered its steady, onward course. From year to year it has enlarged its size, improved its matter and gained many new friends. All this is the result of energy and determination. For when

others fainted by the way it has made fresh efforts and branched out—ever keeping in view its one grand object—that of furthering the interests of honey-producers by losing no opportunity offered to create a demand for this God-given sweetness, opening up new avenues for its use, and thus benefiting its patrons.

Another departure may now be announced. On and after the beginning of next year the price of the JOURNAL will be \$1.50 per year, instead of \$2.00 as heretofore. Clubs of five will be sent for \$5.00, cash in advance. Subscriptions will be received at once at the new price for next year.

Cans for Honey.

Lake Village, Ark., Aug. 26, 1878.

MR. EDITOR:—Please inform myself and others through the A. B. J. what would be the cost, in Chicago, of packages for honey, holding respectively: 5 lbs., 10 lbs., 25 lbs. and 50 lbs.; such packages as were exhibited at the Los Angeles convention, May, 1878.

J. B. TALLMAN.

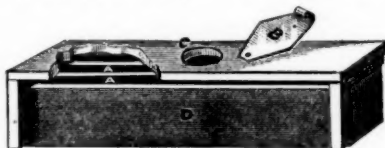
Such packages, in this city, would cost about as follows: to hold 5 lbs., round, 15c.; 10 lbs., round, 20c.; 25 lbs., square, with screw top, 40c.; 50 lbs., 60c.; and 100 lbs., \$1.00.

A few days ago, one of our callers assured us that he had a neighbor who invariably closed up all the entrances of his hives every Saturday night, and kept them closed till Sunday night, to prevent his bees from "working" on Sunday!! To be consistent, he should remain in the house all day Sunday, and *fast*, else some one will have to *work* to get his food and keep him warm in winter! Surely, "superstition" and "cruelty" go hand in hand!

The drawings of the Bee Enemy, —*Phymata Erosa*—on page 343, were made by Mr. Sherman Upton, of the Sophomore Class at the Michigan Agricultural College. The engraving by Baker & Co., of this city.

Shuck's Bee Feeder.

This is a convenient arrangement for feeding bees at the entrance of the hive, and is shown accurately by the accompanying engraving. The feeder is placed on the alighting-board, with the side (D) nearly covering the entrance. In the engraving, the top is cut away to show



the wood divisions (A A) in the feed-cup; the food is poured into it, without removing, through the hole (C), which is covered with wire-cloth below, to keep the bees from annoying the person pouring in the feed. When this is done, the small cap (B) is closed over it, making all tight and secure. It can be used on any hive, and for outside feeding we think it has no superior. The food can be reached only by the bees from within, and, consequently, there is no danger of robbing from its use. It can be obtained at this office.

STINGS.—Russell Bliss, of Earlville, Ill., inquires the best means of preventing or curing bee-stings. The best means of preventing bee-stings, is to keep out of the way of the bees. The best means of curing them, is to immediately take a fresh tomato leaf, crush it, and rub upon the part stung. The pain will disappear immediately and without the slightest trace of swelling. This is an infallible cure—insuring perfect “Bliss!”

The busy season will soon be over, and friend G. M. Doolittle informs us that he will, in October, resume his valued correspondence to the **AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL**. An article from him may be expected in every issue during the winter, for he intends to give the **JOURNAL** his exclusive attention hereafter.

Let all who can, attend the Convention at New Boston, Oct. 2 and 3. See full notice in **BEE JOURNAL** for Sept. Mr. O. Clute, of Keokuk, an accomplished scholar and fluent speaker will be present and favor the Convention and citizens of New Boston with a very interesting Lecture on “Honey.” This will be a treat, and should call out a large attendance. We regret not being able to be present.

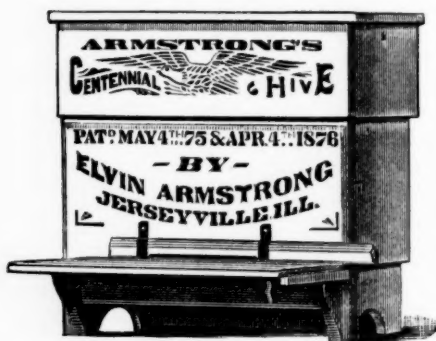
H. Scovell, Columbus, Kansas, has sent us a drawing of a new Smoker that he is experimenting with. He has made a model, which he says works like a charm. The fire box is enclosed in a larger tube with air space between to keep it cool enough to handle. This is held in place by springs. As the heat will soon destroy these, some other device will be necessary. It is fed entirely at the large end of the tube. If he finds it a success, our readers will no doubt be treated to a “picture” of it, though its form will be similar to other Smokers.

We have received two samples of the new style comb foundation, one from Mr. O. J. Hetherington, and one from Mr. J. H. Nellis. It is in appearance, simply “immense,”—the most beautiful thing we ever saw. Have placed some of it in our hives, and have no doubt it will completely revolutionize comb foundation ideas. It has a perfectly plain base, with side-walls formed. That intended for the brood-nest has wires in it to prevent sagging, and that for use in surplus honey is perfectly thin and transparent. Being “a thing of beauty” we hope it may be “a joy forever.”

Some still persist in writing letters, leaving them unsealed and putting a one-cent stamp on them, thinking they have done a “smart thing.” On all such, we have to pay 5 cents at this end of the route. All should remember, that anything written, other than on a postal card, must have a three-cent stamp on it, whether sealed or not.

Armstrong's Centennial Hive.

This hive has been duly installed into our museum since our last issue. A general idea of it may be gathered from the engraving herewith presented.—We much prefer the Langstroth hive, but as Mr. Armstrong has arranged his hive to use the newest improvements in the plan of getting comb honey, by means of Prize Boxes, tin separators, &c., bee-keepers can decide to suit themselves the question of the form, shape and *name* of the hive they prefer. It is the management and the manner



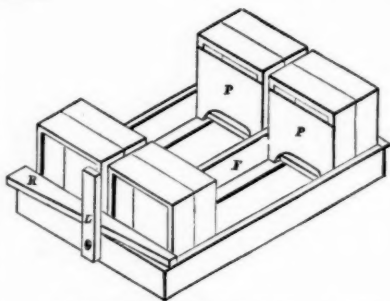
of putting up the honey far more than the hive they use, that must demand attention. Almost any one of the numerous hives may be used to profit, if the management be upon scientific principles.

The Comb-Honey Rack Mr. Armstrong uses is correctly illustrated by the accompanying engraving. The middle honey-boxes are removed, in order to show the independent separators (P P) which, it will be observed, are so formed as to rest upon the base of the frame of the Rack (R) leaving an opening at the top and bottom for the bees to pass from one box to another.

He also uses eight honey-boxes at the sides of the brood chamber for storing surplus—four on each side. This plan is adopted by many with good results—coaxing the bees to commence working in the boxes early.

These things being now admitted to be a part of scientific and rational man-

agement of bees for profit, Mr. A. shows wisdom in adapting them to his hive.



ARMSTRONG'S COMB HONEY RACK.

Mr. Armstrong has issued a very neat little descriptive circular which is sent free to all who desire it.

During the season Fred. McCollum of Council Grove, Kansas, had a colony which threw off four swarms. It was then given a thorough examination by Prof. Read who found seven young living queens. Five were caught and removed, and a few days later there was another swarm, all doing well.

Dr. W. B. Rush was married to Miss Fannie A. Asher, on the 24th ult., at Granville, O., where he intends to reside in future. The JOURNAL extends its congratulations.

POSTAL ABSURDITIES. — There are some very queer things about our post-office regulations. Take the postal card, for instance, as pointed out by our contemporaries. If a man has a steady hand and writes closely, he may put several hundred words on a card and send it for a cent. If he pastes the least strip of printed matter on it, the postage is increased to 6 cents, though he may print on it the same matter, and by putting it in fine type get several thousand words on the card, and it will go for 1 cent; and he may paste the card all over with printed matter, then put it in an open envelope, and it will go for 1 cent. The card and envelope will go for less money than the card alone. When will these absurdities and inconsistencies be abolished, and everything go by weight at a uniform price?

Hill's Wax Extractor.

This consists of a boiler to hold the hot water, which may be placed on the stove, and from it a piece of gas-pipe runs up to the wax holder; through this the steam is communicated to the wax, melting it and discharging it through a small tin pipe from the lower side, into a pan which may be placed on the boiler



below, and thus be kept from congealing till enough for a good-sized cake is extracted. This extractor turns upon its axis, and having a smaller vessel inside made of perforated tin, the wax runs through it to the discharge pipe, not only at the bottom but on all sides. We have not seen it work, but should think it capable of performing the object of its manufacture, *i. e.* melting the wax and thus preparing it for market.

“Can anyone select the best queen to breed from, by simply seeing?” is a very pertinent question. If he is wholly unacquainted with the relative merits of the colonies, we think it next to an impossibility. If he is familiar with them and their characteristics, it would be quite easy to do so. “O. M. A” says, in reference to this: “I have 80 colonies of Italians so near alike, that if any one will select the best queen to breed from, upon examining them, I will give him 2 of the colonies. If he fails, he shall present 2 Italian colonies to the BEE JOURNAL. Here is a chance for the confident ones to test their skill. We shall see who will *dare* to take up the challenge.”

The Langstroth Hive.

A correspondent inquires if there is a patent on the Langstroth hive, and whether any royalty can be collected of those using such?

Certainly, *not!* That patent expired in 1873, and now there is no patent either on the hive or frame. All being free to make and use it at pleasure.

Sperry & Chandler have a patent on the “North Star Hive,” including a manipulating side arrangement. This may be attached to any hive, and it is very applicable to the Langstroth hive. When so attached, the patent covers the “manipulating side,” and not the hive in any sense.

In order to distinguish the Langstroth hive when so combined, from the ordinary Langstroth, it has been named the “New Langstroth Hive.” Sperry & Chandler’s claim being only on the “manipulating side,” all are perfectly free to make, sell, use or vend the Langstroth hive or frame, in any shape, form or size to suit their notions. Though we hope all will study uniformity in size—the size of the standard Langstroth frame is $9\frac{1}{2} \times 17\frac{1}{2}$ outside measure, with top-bar $19\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length. The hive is $14 \times 18\frac{1}{2}$ inside, and 10 inches deep.

At the Illinois State Fair, held at Freeport, Sept. 16-21, there was some honey exhibited, but nothing like the “Honey Show” that should have been made. Mr. Armstrong had his hive there on exhibition, and the “Excelsior” Extractor was represented. The Bingham smoker, Bingham & Hetherington uncapping-knife, and a few other small apiarian tools, completed the catalogue.

Part II. of Novice’s “A B C of Bee Culture” is on our desk. It covers the letters from D to H. A more appropriate name, we opine, would have been “Bee-Keeper’s Encyclopedia,” as that is really what it is. It will be handy as a reference book, when complete.



Lady Bee-Keepers.

On this shore of the Atlantic as well as in Europe, their "name is legion, for they are many." The best specimen of Honey in our Museum, is in an Isham box (very similar to the "prize box") and, is from the apiary of Miss Lucy Wilkins, of Farwell, Mich. This will no doubt be news to the excellent lady producer, for she is not aware of the fact that we have any of her crop of honey. 'Tis true, nevertheless, and it has been admired by hundreds (yea, thousands) of our visitors, both from the city and country. As this honey was purchased from a grocery store where Miss W. sold it, we have, at least this once, stolen a march on our excellent lady friend.

By the report of the Honey Show in London, England, which may be found on another page, it will be seen that the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, the most distinguished and philanthropic lady in the world, is also a producer and exhibitor of excellent honey! Her Ladyship is interesting herself to ameliorate the condition not only of humanity, but also of animals and insects. The London *World* remarks that "from some cause, possibly from ignorance, children are hideously cruel to animals, taking a great delight in torturing them, especially if they happen to be insects. The Baroness Burdett-Coutts hopes that by disseminating instruction concerning animals in infant schools, this tendency may be checked and interest take the place of cruel tyranny. Of course, she is fond of them individually. Her favorite brooch is a cameo of Fan, a dog of infinite good qualities, called some years since to her final rest; and her perpetual companions are Ben, a delightful bull-terrier with a beauty-spot on his back, and a perky little black-and-tan of perfect race. At luncheon time these interesting little beasts are naturally to the fore. On either

side of their mistress is a plate of the daintiest Sevres *pate tendre*, from which these lucky dogs eat their cutlets or minced chicken."

Of course her Ladyship has jewels in abundance; so much so, that special repositories have been constructed to receive and preserve them, but the *World* says that none of the many "treasures of the past, however, is dearer to their owner than the most recent addition to her jewels—the grand whatever it is—it cannot be the cross—of the Medjidjie, conferred on her by the Sultan of Turkey, for her substantial help in establishing the compassionate fund."

The Best is Always Demanded.

Not only do rich consumers demand the best article, but *all* who have the means to buy and the sense to discriminate, demand the same thing. They will turn up their noses at the inferior article, and take the superior one every time.

Honey as well as flour, beef, cheese, apples or grain, will bring the highest price and readiest sale, when it is of the *first quality*, and put up in attractive style. Poor honey, as well as poor butter, is a drug in every market! And yet many still cling to their old notions and put up their honey in clumsy and unattractive packages, and then grumble because they cannot sell it at the highest price paid for a first-class and attractive article! Forgetting that it is the gilt-edged article that brings remunerative prices and a brisk demand.

The market now demands light honey in single-comb boxes, and another year, no other will find sale without the aid of a steam engine or some such power to push it off. The enterprising, the wide-awake bee-keeper will use prize boxes—leaving the 6, 12 and 24 lb. boxes for old fossils to use, and then to whine over them because they can't sell them at any price. It makes no difference where it comes from—the best and most attractive goods are always in demand.

Wonderful Exhibition.

One of the most interesting and wonderful exhibitions that can be made is working Bees. It attracts attention where all else fails. Visitors will brave the dangers to see the wonders! Let us have at least *one* colony of working bees at all our conventions. All visitors at the Crystal Palace, in London, have a small hand-bill like the following put into their hands:

A Perfect Kingdom in a Peck Measure.

"NEVER KILL A BEE!"

South Wing Corridor, opposite end from Aquarium, leading to London and Brighton Railway Station, Low Level.

FIRST OF THE

Thousand and One Attractions!

OF THE

CRYSTAL PALACE

IS

Marriott's Exhibition of Working Bees!

This wonderful, extraordinary and interesting sight has been visited by thousands, and by all pronounced to be the cheapest and most intellectual Exhibition of the Age.

THE QUEEN BEE,

Mother of the Whole Hive,

Ligurian, or Italian Alps Bees!

PURE HONEY FOR SALE,

DON'T FORGET MARRIOTT!

CRYSTAL PALACE BEE MASTER.

The first Exhibition in the Crystal Palace, opened in 1854.

Many try to Equal, None can Excel.

The result has been magical. Improved appliances are the result all over the Kingdom! Increased demand and consumption are the rule! The Bee stands in the foreground, with admiring multitudes following! Of course they are happy, for "industry and cheerfulness are sworn friends."


That Floating Apiary.

Many inquiries have been received as to the result of Mr. Perrine's experiment with a "floating apiary." The *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* has a long report from which we condense the following:

In the spring Mr. Perrine purchased two barges of ordinary length and a little stern-wheel steamer. Whatever of failure has attended the enterprise is due the inferior speed of the boat and a series of exasperating accidents to her machinery. The two barges were provided with shelving, and 400 hives of bees placed upon each. The hives were painted in contrasting colors in order that the little workers could return to the proper hive, the colors aiding each in distinguishing his home by comparative location.

The steamer made such slow progress, owing to breakage of machinery, that the barges were abandoned and the hives were put on the tug. Every few days the boat would stop, the hives were taken ashore and the bees released and when the vicinity was exhausted they would be reloaded and the run made for another garden spot.

The bees are all doing well, and are making honey with a facility gratifying to their owner. The trip will be made through to St. Paul, and then the bees will be taken south for the winter. Satisfied that he has struck a successful solution of the problem of how to insure the honey supply Mr. Perrine will complete his arrangements during the winter for an apiary on a still larger scale, and will leave New Orleans on April 1, 1879, with 2,000 colonies, towed by a boat of assured speed and power.

 Notices of local Conventions are often left too late before being sent on for publication. Hereafter we propose to keep a standing table of *all* such in the *JOURNAL*, and will now request the Secretaries of such to send on for the next *JOURNAL* the time and place of next meeting. This will be very desirable for those wishing to attend, and to prevent clashing in time of meetings. We have been invited, pressing, to attend four or five Conventions this month—all of them coming at the same time. This should be avoided, and can be, by having a reference table, as intimated.

Block for Frame Making.

Wilmington, N. C., Sept. 10, 1878.

Please give a cut of something to make frames on—something to assist in making and holding them together while nailing, &c.—with instructions for use.

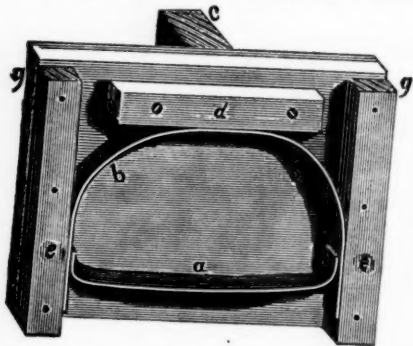
What does Prof. Cook use over his frames? Would it pay me to buy a foot power saw to make 100 to 150 hives?

R. C. TAYLOR.

Prof. Cook uses a quilt over his frames, made of unbleached factory, enclosing a thick layer of cotton-batting, hemmed about the edges and quilted.

We hardly believe it will pay to buy a saw for making 150 hives, but it would be a convenience. Your pine will make good hives.

Prof. Cook uses a block, like the one shown by the accompanying engraving,



Prof. Cook's Block for Frame-Making.

for frame making, and describes it thus, in his new Manual:

Take a rectangular board eleven and a quarter by thirteen and a half inches. On both ends of one face of this, nail hard-wood pieces (*e, e*) one inch square and eleven inches long, so that one end (*g, g*) shall lack one-fourth inch of reaching the edge of the board. On the other face of the board, nail a strip (*c*) four inches wide and eleven and a quarter inches long, at right-angles to it, and in such position that the ends shall just reach to the edges of the board. Midway between the one inch square pieces, screw on another hard-wood strip (*d*) one inch square and four inches long, parallel with and three-fourths of an inch from the edge. To the bottom of this, screw a semi-oval

piece of hoop-steel (*b, b*), which shall bend around and press against the square strips. The ends of this should not reach quite to the bottom of the board. Near the ends of this spring, fasten, by rivets, an inch strap (*a*), which shall be straight when riveted. These dimensions are for frames eleven inches square, inside measure, and must be varied for other sizes. To use this block, we crowd the end-bars of our frames between the steel springs (*b, b*) and the square strips (*e, e*); then lay on our top-bar and nail, after which we invert the block and nail the bottom-bar as we did the top-bar. Now press down on the strap (*a*), which will loosen the frame, when it may be removed all complete and true. Such a gauge, not only insures perfect frames, but demands that every piece shall be cut with great accuracy. Some such arrangement should always be used in making the frames.

California Honey Product.

When it is considered there were no bees in California till after the American occupation, the progress since made in honey raising may be set down as something marvellous. There are few valley countries in which the business is not prosecuted to some extent, but San Diego takes the lead, and has acquired a reputation for her annual honey product which reaches this side of the Rocky Mountains. The San Diego *Union* says:

Notwithstanding the fears which have been expressed of a short honey crop, caused by the backwardness of the season and unusual cloudiness prevailing in May and June, Mr. Harbison informed us that he now expected to produce altogether from his various apiaries quite as large a crop as the largest he ever produced heretofore, which was over one hundred tons—the largest amount produced by any one man in the world in a single year.

Friend O. Clute has removed from Keokuk to Iowa City, Iowa, and all his correspondents should hereafter address him there.

Foreign Notes.

Britains' Bee Show and Convention.

The British Bee-Keepers' Association held its fourth Bee and Honey Show, at the Royal Horticultural Gardens, South Kensington, London, in August, as spoken of in last month's BEE JOURNAL. It was a grand success and will do much good, by assisting to drive the old methods out of use, and in their place to introduce the latest phases of scientific bee-culture. The first President of this Association was Sir John Lubbock. Its present President being a Lady Bee-keeper, whose name is recognized the wide world over as a synonym for benevolence and philanthropy, the Baroness Burdett-Coutts. Honey from her beautiful residence, "Holly Lodge," was on exhibition and received the highest commendation.

The London *Times* remarks that the honorary secretary, Mr. Peel, announced in his address preceding the distribution of prizes, that the show had been successful and well attended, and that it was expected to be repeated next year in the same place. Mr. John Hunter, a member of the committee, delivered a lecture to the visitors, in which he explained the improved methods of bee keeping by the use of bar and frame hives, and the process of driving the bees and transferring them from one hive to another while the honey was "slung" out of the combs of the first. The combs can, after this operation, be restored to be filled again by the industrious insects, who under older methods of culture would have been stifled with sulphur, while their successors would have had to waste precious days of summer in building up fresh honey-combs from the beginning.

Several experienced bee-masters gave examples of manipulation, guiding the bees like a flock of sheep

into new hives, and rapidly selecting the queen, whom the rest always followed, from the drones and workers. Examples of combining the inmates of several hives into one, were shown, and it was stated that strange bees would always be received into a new hive if they brought honey with them. If, however, they could not thus pay their footing, they would be driven away like the drones which, after being fed for a brief season with the richest syrups by the workers, are expelled to perish of hunger and cold at the mouth of the hive.

The following were the principal prizes distributed: For the best hive for observation purposes, all combs visible on both sides, exhibited stocked with bees and their queen.

For the best movable comb hive, including covering and stand.

For the most economical, be stand cheapest, complete hive, on the movable comb principle, for cottagers' use, including cover and floor board.

For a hive for general use, on an entirely new and approved principle.

For the best and cheapest supers for general use in an apiary.

For the cheapest, neatest, and best supers for producing honey-comb in a saleable form.

For the best stock of Ligurian or other foreign bees.

For the best stock of pure English bees.

For the largest and best harvest of honey in the comb and from one stock of bees, under any system or combination of systems.

For the best super of honey, the super to be of wood, straw, or of wood in combination with glass or straw.

For the best glass super of honey.

For the best exhibition of honey in supers, or sections of supers, separable, and each not more than 3 lbs. in weight, the total weight not less than 12 lbs.



For the best single section in the comb, weighing not more than 3 lbs.

For the best exhibition of run or extracted honey, in glasses of 5 lbs. to 10 lbs. each.

For the largest and best exhibition of super honey in comb, the property of one cottager and gathered by his own bees.

For the best super of honey shown by a cottager.

For the best exhibition of run honey in glass jars, containing 5 lbs. to 10 lbs. each, shown by a cottager.

For the best mead or beer made from honey, with recipe attached.

For the best and largest collection of hives, bee-furniture, bee-gear, and bee-keeper's necessities, no two articles alike.

For the best honey extractor.

For the finest sample of pure beeswax, not less than 3 lbs. in weight.

For any new invention calculated in the opinion of the judges to advance the culture of bees.

For the best microscopic-slides illustrating the natural history of the honey bee.

For the best and largest display of British bee flora.

For the best and cheapest honey jars with covers and fastenings complete, to contain 1½ lbs. of extracted honey.

For the competitor who in the neatest, quickest, and most complete manner drove out the bees from the straw skep and captured the queen.

In addition to the principal distinctions, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth and even seventh prizes, as well as high commendations, were awarded to exhibitors.

The most important part of the bee show was the exhibition of those methods of "driving" and manipulation by which the bees are induced to leave their hives. A competition for prizes in driving was on Tuesday held in a tent which had an inner inclosure of netting, so that the process could be observed without

the spectator having to fear the stilettes of the enraged insects. The bees are first made drunk with sugar, or have their senses dulled a little with smoke, and are then drummed out of the hive into a straw skep, from which they are shaken into the new hive.

Many improved bar and frame hives were exhibited which makes the skill of the driver unnecessary, since the bees can be easily shaken out of them. In these a thin plate of wax is inserted to guide the bees in making their cells. They take advantage of the wall thus provided, and build against it. Their time is saved, and the combs are regularly built. A machine to produce these guiding walls, by rapidly passing wax under a roller, is exhibited this year. "Supers" are also shown. These are placed above the hives, and are removed as soon as they are filled with honey. Mr. John Hunter, the well-known apiarist shows American supers, to hold 1 lb. of honey. Extractors, in which the comb is placed and turned rapidly round till the honey is expelled by centrifugal force, are also shown.

Among the curiosities is a Portuguese hive of bark, exhibited by the Rev. F. T. Scott, and a quantity of honey produced on an upper floor in the strand, by Mr. Thurston, which were partly fed on syrup and partly foraged on the flowers of the embankment; or flew across the Thames to the learned shades of Lambeth. An interesting collection is that of the flowers from which bees chiefly gather their food—the spiked teasle, the meadow-sweet, the thyme which gave its flavor to the honey of Hymettus, the white nettle, the fragrant mignonette and lavender, with borage.

The exhibition was enlivened on the first day by a discussion, opened by the Rev. J. D. Glennie, on questions interesting to bee-masters. One of these was, "How far is the process which leads to swarming,

initiated by, and carried out with the good will of the old queen?" The prevalent opinion was, that the queen did not leave the hive willingly; one apiarist, indeed, had seen her forcibly led out between two resolute advisers.

The London *Telegraph* says that the silver medal for "driving bees" was awarded to Mr. Martin, of West Wycombe, who succeeded in emptying his hive and caging the queen in five and three-quarter minutes, the bronze medal being taken by a cottager named Thorn, of Beldock, Herts, who drove his bees in less time, but did not so readily capture the queen.

The Baroness Burdett-Coutts, graced the competition with her presence, and expressed her admiration of the skill displayed.

The judges gave the silver medal for the best hive in the show to Mr. C. N. Abbott, of Southall, whose hive was so ingeniously arranged that it could be contracted or expanded as the need of the bees might require. The first prize for a hive for observation purposes, was secured by Mr. Brice Wilson, of Newbury, whose exhibit was a well made though somewhat expensive hive, both folding and revolving, following in some degree the principal devised by Huber.

Among the hives manufactured expressly for cottagers, were several, which were both serviceable and cheap. Of the dozen competitors, the palm was yielded to Mr. James Lee, of Bagshot. The collection of bee-keepers' necessities included a honey extractor, which, however, is much more largely used in America than in England. The medal in this class was adjudged to Mr. Stephen Knight, of Newbury. An assortment of microscopic slides, illustrating the natural history of the hive bee, was displayed by Mr. John Hunter, the well known apiculturist, to whom a silver medal was awarded.

Live bees formed not the least interesting part of the show, and the first prize for foreigners was carried off by

some Italians, owned by Mr. Baldwin, of the Alexandra palace; Messrs. Neighbour & Sons, securing the second with their Hungarians. Next to these was a nicely arranged stand of the flowers from which the bees draw the largest harvest. Cottagers came well to the front in the honey classes, two of the highest awards being secured by men in this sphere of life in the competition with their richer neighbors. Noticeable as a curiosity was a quantity of "chimney-pot" honey, the designation being applied on account of the honey having been taken from a hive in a room sixty feet from the ground in the Strand, the bees being assisted during the breeding season by artificial means.

Battle between Bees and Geese.

The "Bohemian" relates the following: In the village of M—, within a small rear garden, a number of weeks since, there lived quietly and peaceably together the inhabitants of a bee-hive and a family of geese; the latter consisting of a gander, 6 geese, and 28 young but full-grown ones of both sexes. The bees permitted this flock to cackle *ad libitum*, and they in return placed no obstacles in the way of the industrious tribe of bees.

But on a certain afternoon it seems that a pert young goose, with its bill, came too close to the hive, and perhaps had, in its wantonness, picked at it, which obtrusiveness, however, had been objected to by some returning worker, who in return gave it a sting. The flapping of the wings of the wounded goose gave the signal for a general fight. In great swarms the bees came upon the defenseless flock, to whom the way of escape was shut off by the fastened gate.

The uproar at last attracted the attention of the people within doors, and not until after having received numerous stings was the man servant enabled to open the gate. Already



6 geese lay dead upon the ground, 2 died immediately after, a few were blind and remained so, and the rest were more or less wounded and did not recuperate until days after. The bees were so exasperated that hours after, neither human beings nor animals could venture into this garden or any of the neighboring yards.

Translated for the American Bee Journal.

German Bee-Keepers' Convention.

The Eighth General Convention of Alsace-Lorraine Bee-Keepers' Society, in connection with an *exhibition and drawing of bees*, flowers, auxiliaries of bee-keeping, and products of the apiary, took place at Hagenau, August 18-22, 1878.

The following was the programme: At 10 a. m. the exhibition opened; at 4 p. m. there was a concert by the Pompier music band, in the court of the "Hopfenhalle." In the evening, illumination and pyrotechnical displays.

Aug. 19th.—Exhibition continued; general convention of the Alsace-Lorraine Forest Administration. At 8 p. m., concert by the Jäger music-band, at the Europäischen Hof.

Aug. 20th.—Reception of foreign bee-keepers. At 8 p. m., meeting and entertainment at the Brasserie du Commerce.

Aug. 21st.—Main day of the society members. At 9 a. m., within the outer hall of the theatre: Opening of the Eighth General Convention by Herr Bastian, President of the Society. The Society matters were then considered in the following order: Nomination of judges; annual statement by Herr General Secretary Zwilling; financial report by the Second Treasurer, Herr Balzer; reinstatement of the Central Committee; nomination of treasury revisers; society statutes. Then followed a lecture on "How to organize a bee exhibition;" reports from the Parisian Apicultural Exhibition, by M. A. de Dietrich; the Bee-Keepers' Exhibition at the World's Fair in Paris, by J. Dennler, and a discussion of interesting topics. At 1 p. m., a banquet at the Kaufhaus. Afterwards, drawing and proclamation of winners of prizes.—Evening, fireworks and torchlight procession.

Aug. 22d.—7 a. m., excursion to Philippsburg-Falkenstein, two hours' sojourn at Niederbronn, and a return to Hagenau, where the officers elect

were duly installed, and a grand reception ensued.

Visitors were provided with quarters free, and transportation free to their homes by the railroads.

It has been enacted that bee-keeping is to be taught in the public schools of Alsace-Lorraine.

There was an excellent display of flowers, and an exhibition of hives, honey and beeswax, as well as many apiarian implements.

A public sale of bees occurred at the close of the Convention. After the drawing of the prizes, a magnificent banquet was provided, and all went home having spent 5 days very profitably in real German enthusiastic style.

Conventions.

Kansas State Convention.

This association assembled in Lawrence, Kansas, on Wednesday, the 4th ult. The meeting was called to order by the president, N. Cameron. On motion, O. W. Carpenter was elected secretary.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The president then delivered an address, for which a vote of thanks was tendered.

[As this address was not received until the 21st ult. we are compelled to give a synopsis or omit it entirely.—Ed.]

President Cameron explained that the association had not been called together for 4 years, because the excursion railroad fare made it next to impossible to get more than a local meeting. He deprecated the publication of honey yields as detrimental to bee-keepers, because, it induced many to embark in it only to be sadly disappointed.

He did not believe queens should be sent by mail with honey in the cage, for it was very likely to daub the mail matter. He favored candy-feed only for shipping. He also condemned in strong terms the nefarious practice of the adulteration of sweets; said that it was now almost universal and demanded the action of Congress to stop it. The health of the nation demanded some legislation to stop the flooding of the country with vile compounds called "syrups," as well as adulterated honey.

He remarked that these subjects were all important to bee-keepers, and demanded their attention rather than discussions about abstract questions, upon which no decision could be obtained.

The secretary then read communications to the association as follows: From I. P. Watt, Duck Creek, Ill., asking what part of Kansas is best adapted to bee-keeping, and what honey plants succeed best. There were none that could give much encouragement to go into bee-keeping as an exclusive business. The communication was turned over to the president to answer.

A communication from G. F. Merriam, Bernardino, San Diego county, Cal., giving a report of his apiaries for this season.

A communication from Charles Dadant, Hamilton, Illinois, on honey as a medicine, and adulteration.

One from Jas. Heddon, Dowagiac, Mich., entitled, "Stray Thoughts," touching various important topics in bee-keeping.

The subject of adulteration was discussed, and a committee appointed to prepare a bill to prevent and punish adulterators of food and to urge it upon the attention of the legislature next winter. Committee—N. Cameron, M. A. O'Neill and S. M. Allen.

There was on exhibition comb-foundation machines and white clover honey by F. J. Farr, Independence, Mo.; hives, honey, comb-foundation and section-boxes by P. Underwood, North Lawrence; section-box by J. Heddon; honey extractor, sample of honey-dew honey and bellows smoker by N. Cameron; and Cook's Manual by T. G. Newman & Son, Chicago, Ill.

After a vote of thanks to Judge Smith for the use of his room, the meeting adjourned.

O. W. CARPENTER, Sec.

Lancaster Co. (Pa.) Convention.

This Association met at Lancaster, Pa., on Monday, Aug. 12, 1878.

The following members and visitors were present: Peter S. Reist, Litz (Pres't); J. G. Martin, Earl; Amos G. Wenger, Mastersonville; Tobias Seachrist, Manor; Samuel Erb, Warwick; G. S. Lintner, City; John Metzler, West Earl; Isaac Shirk, West Earl; J. F. Hershey, Mount Joy; J. M. Johnston, City; F. R. Diffenderfer, City; Elias Hershey, Paradise; John Huber, Pequea; Daniel Krider, West Lampeter; J. F. Schaffer, U. P.; B. F. Seldomridge.

The meeting was called to order by the President, who read the following address:

GENTLEMEN: It affords me great pleasure to meet the members of the Lancaster county, Pa., Bee-Keeper's Association again after a lapse of three months. Allow me, therefore, to greet all brother bee-keepers present, and bid all interested in bee-culture welcome to our city and to a participation in our discussions to-day.

As the time of our meeting is precious, I shall not trespass with any extended remarks. Suffice it to say that we meet here to discuss the habits and the management of bees, a subject that is becoming of great interest, and an industry which is the most remunerative, considering the amount of capital invested and cost of management, of any pursued in the country.

The number of pounds of beeswax now produced in the United States is about one million and a-half; this at 25 cents per pound would make \$375,000.

The number of pounds of honey produced is now about 24,000,000; this at 15 cents per lb. would make the sum of \$3,600,000, of which Pennsylvania alone produces about 1,500,000 lbs.

There are about 3,000 hives of bees in Lancaster county, 50,000 in the State and about 900,000 in the United States, from all of which is collected a surplus natural

growth and substance which would be a loss to the human family were it not for the little bees. A gentleman in conversation with a friend on this subject once remarked, when asked if he was keeping many bees, "I own a lot, but the bees are keeping me," and such is the case in many instances.

Since so many volumes have been written and so many journals are published on bee-culture, I will ask to be excused from saying more than that there are a number of certain facts, well established, which we must understand and follow if we would be successful in bee-culture.

There are three kinds of bees, in every prosperous hive—the drones, the queen and the workers. The workers constitute the main body of the colony. These do all the labor, but live only about two months, and are the smallest. The drones are the male bees, fewer of which are raised in a hive, and are always destroyed after the honey season. They fecundate the queen, do no other work, and are clumsy and nearly as large as the queen herself, but are drones in every sense of the word.

The queen bee is the only perfect female in the hive. She is the mother of all the others. No colony can exist and prosper without the queen. There can never be two queen bees in one hive. She leaves the hive when about seven days old to meet the drones for the purpose of becoming fertilized, and never leaves the hive again, except with a swarm. The queen sometimes lives three years. She is capable of laying 100,000 eggs in one season.

There are four substances secreted in gathering by the bees, viz: pollen, or bee-bread, propolis, wax and honey.

A great deal depends on the management of bees and the handling thereof. There is a spring, summer and winter management, natural and artificial swarming, feeding, the kinds of hives or boxes, and the destruction of fruit. The subjects, together with the management necessary for every month in the year, will make good questions for our consideration to-day. The study of bee life and how to treat them so as to receive the most good from their labors, is a most interesting one and well deserves the attention of both farmer and scientists.

In the absence of the regular Secretary, F. R. Diffenderfer acted in that capacity.

REPORTS.

G. S. Lintner reported his bees as not having done as well as last year. He started with 8 colonies and they have increased nearly 100 per cent. The weather was not favorable and they have not made as much honey as they should have done.

J. F. Hershey said the spring was not favorable, some of his colonies were in a starving condition. He started with 62 colonies and has now 40 more. He has already taken away some 500 or 600 lbs. of honey and will get more. He gave his attention more to raising queens, and that prevented natural increase to a large extent.

John Huber said in the early summer some of his colonies did well, but since hay-making they have not done much. There has not been the increase that there should have been.



Elias Hershey started in the spring with 15 colonies and now has 27. His are Italian bees and have made about 25 lbs. of honey to the colony.

J. G. Martin said he had 5 colonies in the spring, sold 6, and now has 24 colonies. He has so far taken off 500 lbs. of honey, and still has a good deal more. He used a good quantity of foundation comb. The bees are doing well in his neighborhood, now, but did not do so well in the spring.

J. B. Eshleman, of Ephrata, reported that the increase of his colonies was small, he having made only 8 natural and 1 artificial swarm. His object is more to get honey than bees. He gave as a reason for the small increase that his colonies were very strong and in good condition in the early spring, and had made preparations for swarming, when the inclement weather came on, which prevented them from making much honey from the trees then blossoming; the great change in the atmosphere seemed to stop all further progress in the way of swarming. Had not this occurred he thinks he would have had more swarms in April alone than all his subsequent increase has amounted to. The yield of honey so far has been over 500 lbs., including what is still in the hives. The prospects for an additional surplus is good about Ephrata, the rains having improved the pasture.

Daniel Kreider began with 8 colonies and now has 14. He has taken away about 150 lbs. of honey, and his bees are still hard at work, with a fair promise of increasing their stores.

J. T. Shaeffer started with 9 colonies, and has now 20. He tries to raise bees more than honey. His bees have never done better. They are busily at work. The spring was unfavorable. He has Italian bees. His boxes are now full and they are storing away in the surplus boxes. He would have none but Italians. Some swarmed three times.

B. F. Seldomridge had 5 colonies to begin with and they swarmed well; all are now at work in the honey boxes, having filled the hives. Some are storing in the second extra box. All but one are Italians. His bees have never worked so well in July as at this season.

Amos G. Wenger started with 14 colonies in the spring. He has made about 350 lbs. of honey. His bees have done very well. In April they were doing well, but in May they nearly starved. From 3 Italian colonies he has now 8. In July they did very well.

The President remarked that bees seemed to require moisture as much as grass or corn. When the season is too dry they do not store up largely, but if the season is too wet it is also detrimental to the storage of large honey products. He had about 30 colonies. He has given them out on the shares. One man who got 15 hives, now has 32. They are gathering honey fast, and all seem to be doing well.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION.

"DO BEES SELECT A PLACE FOR THEIR HIVE PRIOR TO SWARMING?"

J. F. Hershey has seen a swarm leave the hive and go direct to a distant tree to remain. Often small working bodies of bees leave

the main swarming body and seek a place to stop in. Many swarms are lost by bees

going off. If the wings of the queen are clipped prior to swarming the bees do not escape.

J. G. Martin clips a wing of the queen and has lost no swarms; once he lost the queen by this operation, but saved the swarm. The clipped wing never grows out again.

G. S. Lintner divides his colonies and thus saves all trouble and loses no swarms. If a looking-glass is used when the bees are in the air and the reflected light is thrown upon them, they lose their course and come down at once. They are unable to withstand this test.

J. F. Shaeffer has tried all ways, and finds dust, stones, clubs and such articles about as good as anything. The looking-glass can't be used in cloudy weather and will hardly stop a swarm with a young queen. He does not know what to say about the selection of a place for a hive prior to swarming.

The President thought it unnatural for the bees not to select a place prior to issuing from the hive. He saw a swarm recently go direct to a hollow tree. Bees have been known to clean out a hollow tree several days prior to swarming as if making ready for that event. Bees have been known to be busy in and about a tree, then to leave it for a few days, and a swarm finally to take up its quarters there.

IS HONEY FOUND AS A NATURAL PRODUCT BY THE BEES, OR DO THEY MANUFACTURE IT?

J. F. Hershey.—Bees gather honey, they do not manufacture it. If bees gather from buckwheat it is buckwheat honey; if white clover it is white clover honey, etc. All the change that occurs in the honey is caused by the evaporation of the water; if sugar syrup is fed and stored in the comb, it is still the same.

J. G. Martin two years fed sugar syrup, and it did not seem to be any thing else when put into the combs.

J. F. Shaeffer agrees with Mr. Hershey. The honey will be just as the bees gather it, but evaporation will change it. The scent however remains the same, whether it be white clover or any other substance.

CAN A LOCALITY BE OVERSTOCKED BY BEES?

J. F. Hershey said he never had enough to test the question. Eighteen years ago, there were 10 colonies within a mile of his house; to-day there are 250, and they all gather as much honey as the early ones did. How it would be if a great many were congregated at one place he does not know, and was not prepared to say.

THE BEST REMEDY FOR BEE STINGS.

J. F. Shaeffer said spirits of ammonia are the best remedy. It prevents nearly all swelling and is a sure remedy to prevent pain.

Elias Hershey said an application of honey will prevent swelling; at first was intensely pained by the stings; now he no longer minds them.

J. F. Hershey corroborated the above;

stings have no longer much effect on him; they are no longer painful and cause little swelling. An onion will prevent swelling.

THE BEST WAY TO GET BEES OUT OF A HONEY BOX?

B. F. Seldomridge said, bore a gimlet hole in the box and blow smoke into it; all the bees will then go below.

J. F. Hershey said, if tobacco smoke is used it may infect the honey with its odor. He takes off the box and puts another on the top of it, when the bees generally ascent if the box is rapped on; when they have all gone into the new box he places it where the box filled with honey stood.

WHICH IS BEST, NATURAL SWARMING OR ARTIFICIAL DIVISION OF THE COLONY.

G. S. Lintner divided some colonies this spring and they did not do so well; but the weather was unfavorable. More honey is made by natural swarming, and more bees by the artificial method. He explained the process of making 3 colonies out of 2, that has proved successful with him.

J. F. Hershey said for such as look after bees, artificial swarming is best. By artificial swarming we get colonies when we want them—that is, in the honey season. By natural swarming we must wait until they swarm and sometimes they swarm too often, and too late.

Mr. Shaeffer said, to drive colonies one should understand the business thoroughly. About the 8th of June is the best time. He approved of artificial swarming. In natural swarming all the young bees come out, some of which are immature and wanting in strength and are frequently lost. A pint of bees now and then amounts to a good deal.

PREPARING COLONIES FOR WINTER.

J. F. Shaeffer advised all persons who were not thoroughly posted, to leave their bees on their summer stands. Once he lost 8 out of 11 colonies by trying to shelter them artificially. You must shelter them from behind by boards or straw, but leave the fronts exposed to the sun. There are always fine days when they can get the sun.

J. F. Hershey lost 50 colonies out of 102, by keeping them on the summer stands. Two years ago he built a sheltering house for his bees, which he can ventilate; it is dug 4 feet into and built 4 feet above the ground, or 8 feet high, with earth banked around the surface above ground. In this he wintered 70 colonies, some of them very weak, and got them all through safely. They are placed in 3 tiers, the strongest below and the weakest on top; he keeps the temperature at as nearly 45° as he can; he ventilates his house by tubes. When it gets too warm he sometimes opens the door over night, and thus reduces the temperature. He gives them a chance for a fly sometimes in early spring.

On motion, it was resolved to hold the next meeting on the second Monday of November.

There being no further business, the society adjourned.

PETER S. REIST, Pres't.

F. R. DIFFENDERFER, Sec'y pro tem.

Correspondence.

For the American Bee Journal. Another Bee Enemy.

About one year ago I received a small bug from a gentleman in Maryland, together with the information that it was a serious enemy of the honey bee. It was stated that this bug would lie concealed among the flowers, and upon occasion would grasp a bee, and, holding it off at arm's length, would suck out its blood and life. More recently, I have heard of the same insect with the same habits, in Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, and more recently, through the editor of *Gleanings*, from Minnesota, and later still, from V. W. Keeney, Shirland, Ill. In one case it was stated that the bug had the power, which it was not slow to use, of stinging quite severely. This same insect has been observed by both Prof. W. J. Beal and myself, at this place, resting on flowers, in which it is often almost concealed, awaiting an opportunity to capture and defluidize its prospective victims.

WHAT IS IT?

This is a Hemipteron, or true bug, and belongs to the family *Phymatidæ* Uhr. It is the *Phymata Erosa*, Fabr., the specific name *erosa* referring to its jagged appearance. It is also called the "stinging bug," in reference to its habit of repelling intrusion by a painful thrust with its sharp, strong beak.

BIBLIOGRAPHY.

This insect is mentioned by the lamented Dr. B. D. Walsh (*Am. Entomol.*, vol. 1, p. 141), who facetiously compares its intelligence with that of the highest bipeds, who



FIG. 1.—Side View, natural size.

are often ignorant of the difference between a bee and a beetle, nor could they safely grasp the former. Yet this humble bug does know the distinction, and holds the bee well off, so as safely to suck out its substance. On p. 25, vol. 2, of the same work, this insect is briefly described and its habits given. Dr. A. S. Packard speaks of this stinging bug, in the *American Naturalist*, vol. 1, p. 329, and also in his *Guide to the Study of Insects*, p. 532, where the insect is figured. Mr. Townsend Glover, late of the Agricultural Department, in his beautiful work on the Hemiptera, p. 57, has described the habits of this bug, and has given three fig-

ures of it, Plate III., Fig. 13. Prof. P. R. Uhler, our greatest American authority in this sub-order, in "Hemiptera West of the Mississippi," p. 58, speaks of the habits of the *Phymata Erosa*. In the current volume of the *Country Gentleman*, p. 551, the able entomological editor, Prof. J. A. Lintner, in response to a correspondent, gives a brief account of the habits, etc., of this same insect.

DESCRIPTION.

■ The "stinging bug" (Fig. 1) is somewhat jagged in appearance, about $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch long, and generally of a yellow color;



FIG. 2.—Magnified twice.

though this latter seems quite variable. Frequently there is a distinct greenish hue. Beneath the abdomen, and on the back of the head, thorax and abdomen, it is more or less speckled with brown; while across the dorsal aspect of the broadened abdomen is a marked stripe of brown (Fig. 2, d, d). Sometimes this stripe is almost wanting, sometimes a mere patch, while rarely the whole abdomen, is very slightly marked, and as often we find it almost wholly brown above and below. The legs (Fig. 2, b), beak



FIG. 3.—Beak, much magnified.

and antennæ (Fig. 2, a) are greenish yellow. The beak (Fig. 3) has three joints (Fig. 3, a, b, c) and a sharp point (Fig. 3, d). This beak is not only the great weapon of offense, but also the organ through which the food



FIG. 4.—Antenna, much magnified.

is sucked. By the use of this, the insect has gained the soubriquet of stinging bug. This compact jointed beak is peculiar to all true bugs, and by observing it alone, we are able to distinguish all the very varied

forms of this group. The antenna (Fig. 4) is four-jointed. The first joint (Fig. 4, a) is short, the second and third (Fig. 4, b and c) are long and slim, while the terminal one (Fig. 4, d) is much enlarged. This enlarged joint is one of the characteristics of the genus *Phymata*, as described by Latreille. But the most curious structural peculiarity of this insect, and the chief character of the



FIG. 5.—Anterior Leg, magnified—exterior view.

genus *Phymata*, is the enlarged anterior legs (Figs. 5, 6 and 7). These, were they only to aid in locomotion, would seem like awkward, clumsy organs, but when we learn that they are used to grasp and hold their prey, then we can but appreciate and admire their modified form. The femur (Fig. 5, b)



FIG. 6.—Interior view.

and the tarsus (Fig. 5, a) are toothed, while the latter is greatly enlarged. From the interior lower aspect of the femur (Fig. 6) is the small tibia, while on the lower edge of the tarsus (Fig. 6, d) is a cavity in which rests the single claw. The other four legs (Fig. 8) are much as usual.

HABITS.

This insect, as already intimated, is very predaceous, lying in wait, often almost con-



FIG. 7.—Claw extended.

cealed, among flowers, ready to capture and destroy unwary plant-lice, caterpillars, beetles, butterflies, moths, and even bees



FIG. 8.—Middle Leg—much magnified.

and wasps. We have already noticed how well prepared it is for this work by its jaw-

like anterior legs, and its sharp, strong, sword-like beak.

Mr. Keeney says he caught the one he sent on golden rod. This plant, from its very color, tends to conceal the bug, and from the very character of the plant—being attractive as a honey-plant to bees—the slow bug is enabled to catch the spry and active honey-bee.

VERDICT.

As Prof. Uhler well says of the "stinging bug": "It is very useful in destroying caterpillars and other vegetable-feeding insects, but is not very discriminating in its tastes, and would as soon seize the useful honey-bee as the pernicious saw-fly." And he might have added that it is equally indifferent to the virtues of our friendly insects like the parasitic and predaceous species.

We note, then, that this bug is not wholly evil, and as its destruction would be well-nigh impossible, for it is as widely scattered as are the flowers in which it lurks, we may well rest its case, at least until its destructiveness becomes more serious than at present.

A. J. Cook.

Agr'l College, Lansing, Sept. 14, '78.

For the American Bee Journal.

The Standard of Purity.

The question of a standard of purity for the Italians is one which interests me much, for my own ideas on that subject differ from those of most apiarists. I fear it will be very hard to decide conclusively what is the original type of the Italian in its state of perfect purity. But, let us see what is the evidence as we now find it: In all peculiar and distinct varieties, whether of animal, fowl or insect, there is some set typical mark of form, color or character; in quadrupeds it is generally seen in the form; in fowls, in color and form, giving preference to color; while in our bees (insects), there is scarcely difference enough in the form to make it a distinguishing mark; so we must fall back entirely on color and character for the typical mark. I wish Darwin, with his facilities for research, had given us his opinion on the subject, but I can find nowhere in his "Origin of Species," anything throwing light upon this matter. Going back to the ancient writers, Pliny, Virgil, Columella and others, we still find nothing sufficiently clear to be of much service.

There are two opinions at present among apiarists as to their origin—one, that they are a climatic variety, which has assumed this type by being reproduced for many centuries in certain districts. The other, that it is a cross upon the Egyptian bee. We can glean nothing on this point, either, from ancient writers. So let us look up the modern evidence as we find it.

Granting them to be a climatic variety, we notice that the bees of Milan and Lombardy, where no black bees are found, are a much lighter yellow than those of Piedmont, the Grisons and Lower Italy, where there are blacks. Also, that the bees from the former districts are more gentle and peaceable than those from the latter, where they seem to partake more of the disposition of the

blacks. These things, we should think, would go to prove that the type of the pure Italian was yellow—and the yellower the purer as to color—and a mild, peaceable disposition in point of character, and where they are not found of this uniform pure yellow (without dark annulations, spots or tips), it shows a slight admixture of black blood, for surely, what is to prevent this? We find the two races in Italy in immediately adjoining districts, without natural barriers of any kind to prevent their union.

Any variety of animal or fowl, when perfectly pure, should reproduce in its offspring the typical marks by which it is distinguished, almost exactly; and, as a general rule, we will find that the yellower the queen, the more apt is she to do this, provided she be purely mated. Her daughters should be exact copies of herself. In regard to the workers, she should produce every one marked exactly alike—do not call them pure when some of them will show the third band plainly only when distended with honey, while others show at all times the three plain, broad, golden bands. No, there is something wrong even if none can be found which cannot be made to show the third bands. They must all be marked exactly alike. But some will say we have many dark queens that produce every worker alike, and perhaps duplicate themselves in their daughters. Very well, this is very easily explained, and very reasonably, too; for when there has been a cross of any two varieties, if this cross is then bred in upon itself, it will in time become a fixed type of its own. This accounts for our having light and dark-colored Italians, both queens and bees.

There is one thing, though, which puzzles me no little, that is, the statement of some of our most reliable men, that they have queens of a shining black which produce very light pretty workers. I have never seen or raised such. Will those who have, please let us know whether they were raised from the very light, or dark queens? The blackness of these queens I can only account for, by thinking that there must at some anterior time have been an admixture of black blood in the colony from which she came, and all naturalists recognize the law, that the progeny of a cross will often show the pure markings of either side in certain individuals as well as the varying degree of resemblance to both found in others. And these peculiarities will often crop out many generations afterwards. How many of us have noticed the striped markings of the wild ass of the eastern deserts cropping out in the mule, his remote descendant, and a cross at that, showing for how long the traces of the blood will show itself in the descendants of any variety. On this account all crosses are liable to many variations of color.

If we take a queen of the light yellow variety and cross her with a hybrid drone very few, if any, of the bees will be entirely without the third band, only more irregularly marked and darker than if she had mated purely. But, if the queen be of the dark variety, many of the workers will show only two and some one band; at least, such has been my experience. This shows how



a darker variety may originate; and also, the inclination of the dark queen towards the black blood. Some apiarists gave this as a reason why most people wanted the very light-colored dollar queens; for if they had mated with a hybrid drone they would still show, what many take to be the mark of purity—i.e., three bands. I never call a queen pure Italian unless she produces bees, which show the third band *plainly* at all times, and queens that are regularly marked light yellow with no black on them; there are not many such I know, yet a few are found among the imported queens, and some where very careful breeding on light stock has been practiced. But I believe we have very few really pure Italians, with no black blood in them.

I know that these ideas will clash directly against those of some of our best apiarists, breeders and importers; for most of them hold that the dark queens are the best and their workers the best honey gatherers. Hence they say that they are just as pure Italians. When I say Italians I do not mean anything that comes from Italy, for there are black bees there, too, but I speak of the light yellow variety found there and no where else. I agree with them in the first point, but not in the latter. And now comes the main point; which do bee-keepers want, absolutely pure Italians or the most industrious honey gatherers? For those who want the former I would say, get the light yellow queens, without any black on them if possible; but to those who want the latter, and I do for one, I would say get the darker grades by all means. And now for my reasons for this advice, not that I have any interest in the matter, or have come with an "ax to grind,"—for I *have no queens for sale*—I do not believe the pure Italians are as good as those which have a slight admixture of black blood, say about one-eighth. When it is as much as one-half, there is too much of the black, and they partake too much of their character.

In the summer of 1877 I bought some queens of H. Alley, which were the lightest I had ever seen at that time. I selected the largest, most active and prolific, and from her raised a good many queens. I had in the apiary about 80 hives, and only 10 of them pure Italians, the rest were from hybrid mothers; so the chances were about eight to one on these queens mating with hybrid drones. In the early spring the pure Italians were, with the exception of one colony, weak; the hybrids were still worse off; while the light queens which I had raised, for they were exact copies of the mothers, were strong and doing well; one swarmed March 15, with 16 frames well filled with brood and honey, while the others were all doing nearly equally well, and they have continued ahead all the way through. I took 110 lbs. from one and nearly as much from the others, but none of the other classes of bees have yielded more than 40 to 50 lbs. These bees all show three bands, but none of them are regularly marked bright yellow, as the bees of the mother are, and the rings are more of a copper than golden color. The third band can be seen in all, but is narrow and dark in some and in others unusually broad and full.

I have now some of the dark varieties of

queens which please me very much, but I do not call them Italians. The pure queens all did very well for a while, but ere the summer came they showed signs of failing and now none of them are first-class layers. I have one of the dark queens which reproduces herself almost exactly, but I do not think this an evidence that she is pure Italian; but pure of the type or grade of admixture to which she belongs. This is the very class of queens I want, and which I think will prove most profitable to the apiarist who is after honey and dollars, regardless of pretty looks.

And now for the second view of the case; supposing them to be a cross of the black and Egyptian bee, (which I have never seen or even a good description of it), there will be no difficulty on this stand-point, for the rules applying to the cross of Italians, and blacks, will of course fit here exactly. There are none *pure*, only some (the light ones I suppose) have taken after the Egyptian side of the house, and the darker ones *vice versa*. Cannot some of our scientific European apiarists who have the facilities, try the experiment of crossing the black and Egyptian bee, then breeding from the cross and see what they will obtain? There is room for a great deal of both thought and experiment in this matter—we want the latter especially.

I believe the Cyprian bee to have originated in one of these dark grades of Italians, and being shut up in its island home, by constant reproduction and certain climatic influences, to have assumed the present type.

These now are my ideas gained from my observation, reading and experience. I only advance them as *ideas*. If I am wrong I hope some of our older and more experienced apiarists will take up the subject and show me where, for I am eager to learn as much more on the subject as possible. I shall continue to experiment and hope all will do the same and give us the result.

J. D. SLACK.

Plaquemine, La., Aug. 12, 1878.

For the American Bee Journal.

A City Besieged by Bees.

For six weeks past our bees have not collected honey enough to supply their daily wants. A little over a month ago, I extracted about all the honey I could get from several of my strongest colonies, and to-day there is scarcely a cell of capped honey in any of those hives.

A month of dry, scorching weather left our hillsides destitute of flowers, so that pilfering from our grocerymen and housewives seems to be their only means of support. The groceryman who leaves sweets exposed, or the housewife who attempts preserving fruit, is visited with "twenty thousand strong" in less time than it will take me to tell you about it, for no sooner do our busy little workers catch the scent upon the breezes, than away they go to the place of attraction.

The Bee Convention held here last spring has aroused such an interest in bee-keeping, that the business is entirely overdone.

There must be nearly five hundred colonies in the city of Burlington.

Well, the result is this, our citizens are justly complaining, our grocerymen and fruit dealers are terribly annoyed, our ladies are provoked and say some hard things about the bee-keepers, and the reporter of our evening paper has been admonished to do his duty, and now we are catching it through the columns of one of our dailies and your humble servant has been alluded to in a manner that comes very nearly being personal.

The great scarcity of flowers for the last few weeks is the cause of all this difficulty. If bees can get an "honest living" they will do it, but if they cannot, you know, they are given to thieving.

"What shall be done with my bees?" has been the question with me for the last few weeks. Realizing, as I do, that no one has a right to do anything that interferes with the rights of others, I have determined on shipping my bees out of the city as soon as possible. I have already made arrangements with a gentleman in the country to take them, and so in a few days I shall be deprived of the real pleasure I have hitherto enjoyed of spending my mornings and evenings in the apiary. I shall, however, continue an interest in forty or fifty colonies, but cannot give them the personal attention I so much desire.

The heavy rains we have had recently, have revived vegetation, and we are expecting our fall flowers to yield unusually large supplies.

I. P. WILSON.

Burlington, Iowa, Aug. 25, 1878.

For the American Bee Journal.

Establishing the Purity of Italians.

MR. EDITOR: I believe you are correct. We should have some established standard of purity for the Italian Bee. But, query: Who shall fix the standard? Not one, but all; not in person, but by voice in delegation.

All will agree that the worker-bees must show three distinct bands, but all, probably, will not agree as to their color! One wants them *orange*; another, *leather*; and a third, *chestnut*; while others have little or no choice in the shades, on condition that the bees are long and tapering below the thorax, and quiet in disposition, not leaving their combs for a given time after being removed from their hive, though carried in the open air.

Some, no doubt, will have strong prejudices in favor of the shades of queens, and the number of the crowns and spots on their bodies. But long experience shows that shades and spots are largely dependent upon the manner and season of breeding queens.

Beauty of color should never be made a test of purity in blood, yet it should be coveted when not at the expense of good qualities.

A. SALISBURY.

Camargo, Ill., August 24, 1878.

[Friend Salisbury is right. Let the National Society appoint a committee to take all the testimony, weigh well the points, and then render a decision. In other words, give us a STANDARD. Such a committee should

be composed of the ablest and most thorough men we have, and the committee should have time given them in which to report through the bee papers. And when this is done, let that be accepted as the Standard, by which to judge all disputed cases of purity.—ED.]

For the American Bee Journal.

Chaff from Sweet Home.

Such, in a great measure must bee-keepers regard the long article which was published in the August No. of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, from the so-called Zell's Encyclopædia and the corrections (?) by D. D. Palmer.

The note Mr. Palmer received from the publishers, confessing their ignorance of the source of their information on the bee, and also their statement, that it was probably procured from standard works on the subject, which to practical bee men, are known to be unreliable, &c., shows very clearly of what unreliable material Zell's Encyclopædia is composed.

Because of this confession it logically follows, that the balance of the book is equally worthless, which I believe has long been well known by scholars.

We supposed, however, that D. D. Palmer was a practical bee man, and would write practical facts. Instead, however, in his so-called corrections, he has given to the world through the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL and the aforesaid Encyclopædia, some of the worst "Chaff" ever written on the "bee." Take his No. 1. It is generally believed by practical bee men and asserted as a fact by anatomists, that when a bee loses its entire sting by its being dragged out of the abdomen, it must and invariably does die in a short time. If friend Palmer will examine the anatomical parts of a bee for himself, I think he will change his mind.

No. 2 is undoubtedly composed of both truth and error. The queen is the mother-bee of course, and she is also queen quite as much so as Victoria is the Queen of England. Both are rulers to a certain extent, and both are ruled. He says: "When swarms issue, she does not come forth of her own free will, but is pulled, crowded and dragged out." This may be so sometimes, but not always, as I have witnessed the exit of the queen, and I have never yet seen the least evidence of any crowding or pulling out. I also know that sometimes she comes out among the first, and sometimes at the very last. I have seen her once this season walk out of the hive very deliberately after the swarm was high up in the air. The entrance was large and free, the alighting board long, and I had a free, unobstructed view of her. She was picked up and placed on a brush which was hoisted up into the air among the bees. They at once found her and commenced settling on and around her.

In No. 3 our Encyclopædist says: "The queen is never accompanied by a guard of 12 workers, neither more nor less, but a part of the time she is accompanied by workers,



which caress and feed her just in proportion to the number of eggs laid.

How did you obtain the fact of this proportion Bro. D. D.?

But the climax of absurdities is reached in No. 6. He says: "Of those (eggs) laid, after mating, produce mostly workers depending upon whether laid in drone or worker cells." So then Bro. P., you have concluded hereafter, to have the queen lay one kind of eggs only and the character of the bee determined by the nest or place of deposit?

Some fellow—genius would be the better word—has already proposed caging queen cells and hatching the queens under a setting hen. Now D. D., if you and this Texas genius would unite your forces, and you could induce your queens to lay eggs in a brahma hen's nest, you would at least solve the chicken problem. I have not said anything about our author's grammar, which is on a par with his statement of scientific facts in relation to bee culture.

But enough for the present. When Encyclopedias are made up of such stuff, is it surprising that they should be in disrepute?

A. W. FOREMAN, M. D.

White Hall, Ill., Aug. 19, 1878.

For the American Bee Journal.

Italian vs. Black Bees.

MR. NEWMAN:—In Mr. F. Bangs' plea for Italian bees, he said too much against the blacks or natives. In 1877 I purchased 5 Italian queens, 4 of which I introduced successfully in my choicest colonies in the Centennial hive, to test their superiority before venturing to Italianize.

1st. Mr. Bangs states Italians are at work 2 hours earlier than blacks. He might as well say they work 4 hours later. It sounds about as reasonable.

2d. He says that blacks are always ready to attack man or beast, when the Italians do not pay any attention to them. I find no difference when passing through the apiary. Italians are somewhat more docile when handled with smoke, and find it very necessary to use smoke with both, unless you are fond of being stung.

3d. I would ask Mr. B., from which race he would prefer to extract honey? I have extracted from 5 colonies of blacks and got no stings, but while extracting from a colony of Italians, I have been stung 20 times. The Italian adhere to the combs more closely than the blacks.

4th. As to robbing, in my experience, the Italian will rob and not be robbed.

5th. For honey gathering I consider the blacks, under accurate test, superior. My Italians and blacks are of equal condition, but some native colonies stored 3 lbs. more per day than some Italians.

I agree with Jos. M. Brooks, in Aug. No. page 273; the drones should be uniformly marked like the queen and workers.

I have some colonies of hybrids which I think hard to excel. If I ever purchase any more queens, I want prolific hybrids or natives.

I have taken 2,415 lbs. from 25 colonies, of which 1,400 lbs. are extracted honey of su-

perior quality. Am selling in Philadelphia quite rapidly at 25 cents per lb.

J. TALBERT WILLIAMSON.

Delaware Co., Pa.

For the American Bee Journal.

Improved Swarm Catcher.

To make it, take a bar of iron 1 inch wide and $\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick; drill a hole through each end; take a basket of the size desired— $1\frac{1}{2}$ bushel is the best size; fasten on each side



a lug, so that the basket will hang level, then hang it in the crane. If hung right, it will always hang with bottom down, no matter in what position the crane is. For the handle, take a strip of pine $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches thick, and 3 inches wide; make the handle any length. I have taken swarms over 30 feet high. If made and hung right, it works well.

S. M. OLDHAM.

Reynoldsburg, Ohio.

For the American Bee Journal.

Will Queens Duplicate Themselves?

ALLEY TO THE FRONT.

We had concluded not to say any more upon this subject until it was fully settled, but as friend Alley has come to the front we may expect to get this matter fully settled, as our friend breeds from no others but from those that will duplicate themselves every time. Hence he keeps the very kind to foot the bill. This being a fact, you may be sure of receiving the queen in due season, and she will be under the test ere this.

STANDARD OF PURITY.

Friend Alley said he was interested in reading the articles under the above heading. That queens that will produce such wonderful results are remarkable queens "indeed," that his experience covers a period of 17 years, but he never had a queen come up to the standard of purity as pictured by several correspondents, &c. At present, we can form no idea what our friend Alley alludes to, we have no recollections of seeing or hearing of anything that seemed mysterious

except those described by our friend Alley, that duplicate themselves always in their queen progeny (?). He further remarks: "Friend Moon says he has no queens that will duplicate themselves." True, friend Alley. That statement was based upon our own experience of 16 years. During that time we have received queens from nearly every breeder in this country, even from friend Alley, and they were no more uniform in color than was the old lady's figure. Hence we inferred that no queens will duplicate themselves in their queen progeny every time. We should be sorry indeed to say that we had such queens, and upon a trial to have it found out they did not bear the recommendation given them! We certainly think they would be justified in saying, that we either were ignorant of what a queen was, or that we intended to deceive! While we do claim to breed as fine, and as pure queens as any one, we have none of those unvarying "princesses," neither do we think there is one in this country, judging from experience. The most uniform queen mother we ever knew, was one received from Dr. Larch, of Mo. One-half of her queens very strongly represented their mother queen. Her queens were a tan or light chestnut in color, and every good reliable and practical breeder, knows that these colors in queens are excellent; at least they are the colors that suit us. We have generally found their workers excellent.

TEST OF PURITY.

We cannot rely upon the color of a queen for a test of purity. Our only and safe dependence is upon the uniform markings of the workers. By this only can we judge of their purity. If they bear the 3 distinct yellow bands they are considered pure; they must be industrious, of good size, peaceable, hardy, prolific, &c. As to the color of the workers, we prefer a golden color. There are about three different shades of color in the worker bee—quite dark, medium and light yellow.

COLOR OF QUEENS.

When we penned that article as to queens duplicating themselves we were aware that we should get ourselves into hot water, and thought of a remark we once heard a non-sistent minister make. Said he, "I am going down to Flowerfield and will preach in the Methodist church, and it will be like taking a dog by the tail, and throwing him into a room with 40 cats—oh my, what a noise." So it has been with that article. Letters have reached me stating, they had queens that will duplicate themselves in their queen progeny every time, and friend Alley loomed up from old Massachusetts, and gave us to understand that he bred such queens by the hundreds, and that he breeds from no others.

IMPOSSIBLE.

Friend Alley says, like does not produce like in breeding bees, any more than in the breeding of any other animals. That all queens will not duplicate themselves every time is an established fact—the thing is "impossible." Now, if our friend is raising so many of these fine queens that he says "will" duplicate themselves every time, shall we, or shall we not understand him that the

thing is impossible that he claims to be perfect in, viz: That his "queens will duplicate themselves every time." If this is a fact, all will then breed from such stock, but before saying much more upon this point, we will wait and see the result of the test.

POOR SEASON.

The present one has been one of the poorest ever known in this country for honey. The spring opened remarkably fine; bees swarmed early and often, but have made little surplus honey, and raised large amounts of brood. Reports from almost every portion of the state shows it to have been a poor season for honey.

Rome, Ga.

A. F. MOON.

For the American Bee Journal.

Report from Doolittle's Apiary.

Spring opened very early, and our bees enjoyed the fine weather bringing in pollen quite freely as early as the 10th of March, which was a month earlier than usual. Brood-rearing went on rapidly, and by the 10th of May our hives were as well filled with brood and bees as they generally are the middle of June. At this time, apple trees opened with a profusion of blossoms, and our strongest colonies started queen-cells and made preparations for swarming. Our expectations of a good honey yield from apple trees were great, for we were in need of honey just then, as our bees had consumed nearly all of their old stores, rearing such a large quantity of bees and brood. But, alas, human expectations are always liable to disappointment, and this proved no exception to the case. With the 12th of May came a cold storm, which lasted till the 15th, after which we had frost 6 nights in succession. The cold and frost spoiled all the flowers, and we were obliged to feed 1,500 lbs. to keep our bees from starving. White clover commenced to yield honey, sparingly, June 10th, and our bees were once more in the fields, so we could open hives, &c., without a million of robbers to beset us on every side. By this time, our bees were so reduced in numbers, that we were obliged to unite them down from 140 to 103, to get them strong enough to gather honey to the best advantage during the season. They made but little more than a living till basswood, which commenced to yield honey the 13th of July, and lasted till the night of the 23d, when our honey season came to an end for 1878. Our bees were in the best possible condition to take advantage of the harvest, and we think we never saw honey come in faster in our lives. Every available cell was full of honey, and the combs grew in the boxes as if by magic. The result of our season's work is as follows:

Box Honey.....	6,243
Extracted.....	1,070

This gives us an average of 71 lbs. to each old colony. Our best colony of bees gave us 161 lbs. Best extracted, 278 lbs. We have at present 194 colonies, but as some of them are rather light in stores, we shall double down to 150, as we always believe in making our bees self-supporting.



Although the honey season was poor, compared with last year, and the prospect is that prices for honey will rule low, still we have no reason to be discouraged. Our average yield per colony for the past 6 years has been 94 lbs. per year. As a person can attend to 100 colonies, this would give 9,400 lbs. a year, and even at the low price of 16 cents per lb., we would get \$1,500 for a year's labor. Lest this statement should lead some to think that all they have to do is to buy 25 or 50 colonies to make a fortune, we will say that we work from early morn till late at night, averaging 15 hours work every day, the year round, Sundays excepted. We know of no business that a man can make profitable while simply folding his hands and sitting idly by. But a thorough knowledge of any business, and an untiring energy in the prosecution of it, will always result in success. G. M. DOOLITTLE.

Borodino, N. Y., Sept. 16, 1878.

For the American Bee Journal. Standard of Purity.

Our friend Mahin asks, in the September JOURNAL: "How shall we know when Italian bees are pure?" I will ask our friend, If you have a queen that will duplicate herself in her queen progeny, and produces worker-bees that show distinctly (without being filled with honey) the three colored bands, and whose drones are as even and uniformly marked as are the workers, with 3 broad, colored bands, all other good qualities being present—industry, size, gentleness, etc.—I ask, Are such queens pure Italian? If yes, why? If they are impure, why? You will greatly oblige me by answering in the November JOURNAL.

You say: "Some of those who have written on this subject have recommended selecting those stocks to breed from that have well-marked drones," and say you don't think it safe to follow that advice, because the most beautiful drones you ever saw "were the progeny of a queen whose mother was black, and whose father was an Italian," etc. I am one of the some that gave such advice, and again repeat it, that to improve our bees as to purity, we must pay more attention to the drones; but *not* to breed to such drones as you describe, whose mother was a hybrid, being reared from a black queen. No, indeed; I had reference to drones whose mother was reared from a pure Italian mother.

I asked the question in the August JOURNAL. Why Italian queens do not, and why they should not, produce all uniform three-banded drones, instead of the mixed progeny they generally produce? They being the progeny of one queen, it seems to me they should all be alike and uniform in their markings. I ask the question again, and hope to hear something about it in the next JOURNAL.

The only acknowledged test for purity is that if a queen produces 3-banded workers she is pure. Some breeders even advise filling the bees with honey to make them show the 3 bands. This is almost as bad as the man that would catch his bees, and almost pull the poor things in-two, to show you the

third band was there. "Too thin for me."

Why not commence *further back* with the queen's *own* progeny, the *drones*, and see if they are all alike, and as uniform in their markings as is claimed the workers must be? Impregnation of the queen is claimed not to affect the drone progeny, which, if a fact, *would not* prevent her producing uniform drones, even should she mate with a black drone and produce hybrid workers. I do not believe the Dzierzon Theory, and never allow a mis-mated queen to rear drones in my apiary if I know it. To my disbelief I attribute my success in breeding and keeping my bees up to their present state of purity, by killing all such queens at once. I *know*, then, to a *certainty*, that I will have no further trouble by their rearing queens from their hybrid brood, as is sure to happen if the apiary is large, and worked for box honey and natural swarms. How often do we hear words like this from bee-keepers: "Yes, that queen mis-mated; she is such a fine-looking one, and her bees such good workers, that I *hate* to kill her; besides, you know, her *drones* will be pure anyway, so I have concluded to keep her?"

Now, such queens are just as apt to be superseded by their bees, or swarm unobserved by their keeper, and rear other queens from their own hybrid brood, as are his best queens. In case this should happen, and these hybrid queens mate with your best Italian drones, would it not be, sure enough, as friend Mahin says, "Even the most practiced eyes are liable to be deceived, judging by her workers."

My advice is, if you think the Italians are the best, and you want to keep them *strictly* pure, kill every mis-mated queen whenever you find one. You will then be on the safe side and have no risks to run. The above has been my practice from the first, and I find it the best, giving the least trouble in breeding, and keeping Italian bees in their purity.

J. M. BROOKS.

Elizabethtown, Ind., Sept. 6, 1878.

For the American Bee Journal. Apiaries in Henry Co., Ohio.

FRIEND NEWMAN:—While attending the Soldiers Reunion, at Napoleon, Henry Co., Ohio, on the 3rd inst., I had the pleasure of meeting several bee-keeping friends who reside in the vicinity, among whom was Col. Mann and D. Kepler, of Napoleon, and Capt. W. F. Williams, of Liberty Center. Presuming a short account of my trip would not come amiss to your readers, I will endeavor to be as brief as possible.

Under the guidance of Mr. Kepler, we stopped at Col. Mann's residence, situated on the banks of the Maumee river. Although near the center of town, it is one of the most pleasant places that could be selected for an apiary. The apiary has a southern exposure, with a gentle slope towards the river, and consists of probably 50 colonies. Owing to the absence of the Colonel, I had no opportunity of learning of his success during the season.

Friend Kepler's apiary, numbering about 60 colonies, is located in the north-west part of town. Being anxious to see her majesty

—the queen—imported from Italy through Friends Newman, of the JOURNAL, we hastened to the apiary. Of course queens are nearly all alike; but it was not until then my good fortune to see a queen deposit eggs in an open frame, exposed to the bright sunlight, while being carried away from the hive at least 50 yards. The workers in the meantime were as quiet as could be wished for. After examining several other hives which were in fine condition, we adjourned to the house.

Next morning friend Kepler and myself started for Capt. Williams', whose farm is $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles east of Napoleon and $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles west of Liberty Center.

The bee-yard contained about 150 colonies only, 30 having been removed to a location 6 miles north-west, making in all 180. After much trouble, friend Williams has, during the last 5 years, succeeded in Italianizing all the bees within a radius of 3 miles. In several instances he furnished queens to persons indisposed to Italianize. He claims to have as pure a strain of Italian bees as can be found any where in the state; and from what I have seen during a 5 hours' stay I think he has. His imported queen is from Charles Dadant, of Hamilton, Ill., and her progeny does her credit—possessing the 3 spots on the backs spoken of in relation to the queen received from Rev. Salisbury in Sept. No. of JOURNAL. Friend Williams, in queen-rearing, endeavors to improve with each generation and has the following points in view in breeding, viz: First. Prolificness; Second. Industry; Third. Temper; Fourth. Color.

And judging from the heavy colonies in the yard, the constant stream of bees passing in and out, and the entire absence of "Bingham's addition to the apiary," so much in use among bee-keepers, I for one would be willing to sacrifice the clear buff color in a queen, could I have as evenly tempered bees as I saw at Capt. Williams'.

And now, Mr. Editor, as the mission of bee Journals is, as I understand, to improve our knowledge in bee-culture by an interchange of ideas, and as I have been a reader of some of the leading bee papers for a couple of years and saw nothing from the above source, would it not be a good idea to call friend W. out, as he is a subscriber to your JOURNAL. I don't anticipate he will refuse; and as he is a close observer and sound reasoner, as well as a successful bee-keeper, we may profit by his remarks on queen-rearing.

At dinner I had the pleasure of sampling various preserves, jellies and cake sweetened entirely with honey. The jelly, which was of crab-apple, was just as clear as if made of the best granulated sugar, proving the fact that honey will in a great measure take the place of sugar for the various household uses. After dinner an hour or two was spent in comparing notes and relating bee-keeping experiences, when the time of departure drew near and after a cordial hand shaking all round, and a brisk walk of $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles I took the afternoon train for Toledo, enjoying a pleasant ride, and observing acres upon acres of bonaset now in full bloom, and yellow patches of golden rod just budding out, which with the white

clover and basswood in season makes north-western Ohio, second to none in point of honey production. A few miles outside the city the apiaries of B. O. Everett and L. P. Christianity come in plain view, the newly painted hives, to the number of nearly 200, showing off to good advantage from the train. A few minutes more and our destination is reached, and our double holiday is one of the things that were, only to be remembered with pleasure.

JNO. Y. DETWILER.
Toledo, Ohio, Sept. 5, 1878.

For the American Bee Journal.

Chips from Sweet Home.

As each one of us cannot visit all the apiaries we might wish, I will give you a description of a few.

I had the pleasure of calling on J. H. Nellis, of Canajoharie, N. Y. He has certainly one of the most picturesque locations in the United States. He is about 2 miles from Canajoharie, on a high bluff of the Mohawk Valley. In sight of his apiary is the Mohawk river, a canal with a small village nestled in the side of the bluff, and over on the far side of the valley may be seen more than one train of cars per hour. He has a house apiary which holds about 50 hives. He told me that for queen rearing he would prefer the house to out-doors; but for surplus honey, he would take out-doors. They were putting their bees in the cellar while I was there. J. H. is very finely fixed for queen-rearing of which he makes a specialty. They have a shop, horse-power, saws, etc., for making bee hives, honey boxes, etc. Also, a printing press—in fact, he is well fixed for the business. Long and pleasantly we shall remember our short call with J. H. Nellis.

Sweet Home Apiary is located 12 miles south of Muscatine, and 8 miles north of New Boston, on a steppe of the bluff, being 4 miles from the Mississippi. These 4 miles being the Mississippi bottom, gives us willow bloom in spring, and from Aug. 20, till frost a supply of golden rod honey. Sweet Home Apiary (Sept. 5.) consists of 300 hives, which you may think is overstocking, but as long as we can make the average more per hive than smaller apiaries in as good location, we will not think we are overstocking. We use the double-portico Langstroth hive, and are using the prize box. Sweet Home consists of only 10 acres, being run for fruit of various kinds. The hives of the apiary run in rows north and south, east and west, being 6 feet from center to center, giving me room to run a wheel-barrow between the rows each way. Each hive has its slate hung on the front right hand corner, so that whenever I am operating a hive, I always open on this side, and here's my register at my left hand.

North of Sweet Home, within $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles, are 2 apiaries of 200 hives. South of me 1 mile, is another apiary of 50 hives, and 4 miles further south is the apiary of L. H. Scudder consisting of between 200 and 300 Langstroth hives, situated in an apple orchard. Sandburrs, peppers and bee-stings



make that a warm place. About 9 miles south of this we halt at Wirt's apiary, in Keithsburg; here we find about 100 hives, all Langstroth, surrounding his honey-house. His swarming was conducted in this wise; there being no trees near his apiary, he took some old gooseberry bushes and placed them on poles about 6 to 10 feet high; on these his bees always settled fully one-half settling on one pole. These poles were dropped in a hole in the ground and when the swarm had settled, he carried pole and bush to his hive.

Six miles east of this we find an apiary of 250 Langstroth hives, belonging to Dr. N. H. Derr.

About 8 miles from Keithsburg, and 4 miles north of Oquawka, we find the bee ranch of N. L. Jarvis, 150 hives, Banta & Kellogg.

The order and arrangement of Kellogg's apiary, shop and tools are fully commendable, everything in its place; tools bright and in condition for use. In fact, everything is stamped with neatness and precision. In this apiary there are about 100 hives.

To the north of this are 2 more apiaries belonging to Dickie & Hollingsworth, numbering perhaps 200 hives.

To sum up, we have near us 10 apiaries, numbering in all about 1,500 colonies. In the year of 1877, 79 members of Western Illinois and Eastern Iowa owned 3,980 colonies of bees, from which they got 144,000 lbs. of honey. Can any other convention beat that?

D. D. PALMER.

For the American Bee Journal.

Adulteration of Sweets.

"Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing shall by any means hurt you."
—Luke 10: 19.

Such is the answer that Mr. A. I. Root, under the date of Sept. 1st, made to the articles criticising his course in the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL for September.

Still he deigned to descend from his pedestal to briefly answer my article on Adulteration of Sweets, in this language:

"Because I have declined an article on the adulteration of honey, it has been intimated that I did it from selfish motives. I do not believe in 'writing up' or 'down' a thing, nor have I much faith in petitions to Congress, or legislation; but I do believe in letting people exercise their own good, common sense, and letting demand and supply regulate disputed questions. I have never bought or sold a pound of glucose in my life; but I have sold a great many tons of grape sugar for feeding bees, to incite brood-rearing. Grape sugar cannot be mixed with honey, either in the hive or out of it, by any way that I know of, on account of its propensity to solidify and separate. My profits are a quarter of a cent a pound.

"In regard to what shall or shall not be published in *Gleanings*, it seems to me you have chosen me to be the one to decide; I am always glad of suggestions, but inasmuch as we have, all the time, a great deal more good matter than can possibly be used, I do not see how I can always accommodate all of you."

In this answer, Mr. Root mistakes the facts. It is *not* because he declined an article on adulteration of honey, but because he declined at least three letters and the petition, and especially because he continues to extol glucose, knowing, as well as I do, that sugar is cheaper and more wholesome to feed bees.

In a letter Mr. Root had promised to help me in fighting adulteration. Why did he refuse his co-operation, after receiving the petition? Because I stated in this petition just what glucose was! I dare Mr. Root to point out another motive.

Mr. Root does not believe in "writing up" or "down" anything, and yet he was the one to decide what was fit to be published. To my mind, an editor should be like a judge, having the strict duty of putting before the people both sides of a disputed question, especially when it is an important one. A judge or an editor who acts differently, is not an impartial one; I will say more, is not an honest man, whatever be his claims to bigotry or Christianity.

Mr. Root has never sold a pound of liquid glucose. But he has prepared the way to sell it by tons, by intimating that basswood honey is better when mixed with glucose, and that no chemist would be able to detect the adulteration. It is true that he adds that such mixture would be dishonest. Imagine a father telling his sons that there are riper watermelons in the garden of our neighbor; you could help yourself easily without being detected; but don't go, for it would be dishonest? What would be the result? The boys would steal the watermelons! Mr. Root acts like that father, and anticipates a good sale of glucose to mix with the crop of honey! He cannot be responsible. Oh! no! Did he not tell his readers that this adulteration would be dishonest?

Mr. Root, who believes in miracles, does not believe in science, since he imagines that scientists cannot detect adulteration. He does not believe in legislation; but he believes in letting people exercise their common sense, leaving demand and supply to regulate disputed questions.

Every adulterator would endorse these views, and become rich before the question of adulterated honey could be fixed. In nearly all the civilized nations of the world—in England, France, Germany, etc.—there are public officers to examine all the articles of food offered to the people. Why? Because nobody would be able to detect all the frauds. For years, glucosed honey flooded our market, hindering the sale of the pure article. What good did, in this case, the system of letting the demand regulate the supply? None; for the adulterated article is every year more and more freely offered. Some of this adulterated article was exported to England. Immediately it was detected; the grocer of Glasgow, who had sold it, was fined, and the American dealers hastened to remove their spurious article, not only from England, but from France, and this unlawful business was nipped in the bud on the European continent. As legislation only could do that, let us have legislation.

"*Gleanings* has too many good things to use all." Yes; we find in *Gleanings* a great many letters praising the goods sent by the editor, together with some accounts of a boy who returned drunk, of another who swears, etc. But of what importance is the adulteration of honey to us beekeepers, when compared with such interesting facts? Was it not enough for the readers of *Gleanings* to know that what was said against glucose, was but sensational

reports? Mr. Root proclaimed the qualities of glucose, and that was enough!!

Is not selling solid glucose under the name of grape sugar, and refusing to publish the truth about it, a kind of swindle? The so-called grape-sugar, such as is offered here, is a far poorer article than liquid glucose. In France, solid glucose is obtained by evaporating liquid glucose. Here it is obtained by putting in it a greater quantity of chalk, and the vendors of that compound, under the name of "grape sugar" (Mr. Root included), should be published as swindlers and humbugs in *Gleanings*!

I was one of the six who remonstrated against introducing religion in a newspaper. Like Mr. D. D. Palmer, I would be glad to have my letters published in *Gleanings*. As the editor of that paper insulted all the free-thinkers, by saying that there can be no honesty where there is no faith in the Bible, I will examine the motives of his conversion. I find them related in *Gleanings* for August, page 273:

"Several years ago, a very intelligent bee-keeper paid me a visit of several days. At the time I was not a believer in the Bible, or at least I claimed that I was not, and he seemed to rejoice when he had discovered the fact. If I recollect aright, he made the remark that the greater part of our number were skeptics; that Mr. A did not believe in religion, and worked his bees on Sundays, also Mr. B, and C, and D, and E; that Mr. F. was spiritualist, Mr. H something else, and so on. I remember a little feeling of pain at this, for lightly as I was in the habit of speaking of the Bible, I could not help feeling a slight shudder. Would he, while visiting other bee-keepers, say of me: Yes; and Novice, too, does not believe in Bibles, and churches, and Sunday-schools; but says it is an old piece of superstition, and it is high time that it was all done away with, and reckoned amongst the things of the past. It is true, my friends, I was fond of saying just those words...."


Mr. Root has always one eye to business. He shuddered at the idea of being known by bee-keepers as a free-thinker! What would become of the metal corners, the Simplicity hive and *Gleanings*? It was just to avoid so great a danger. To make a parade of a miraculous conversion was not enough; was it not necessary to accuse of dishonesty all the unbelievers in the Bible? This new departure having proved a good investment, our new saint boasts, every month, more and more of his religion and of his good deeds, and pockets the money beside!

I began my article with a quotation from the Bible; I will terminate it with another:

"Therefore, when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as do the hypocrites in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men! When thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are; for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men."
—Matt. 6: 2, 5.

CHAS. DADANT.
Hamilton, Ill.

P. S.—I have yet on hand a few hundred copies of the petition that I would be glad to send to send to parties, to have them signed.
CH. D.

 The Sorrento Saw for attaching to any sewing machine, advertised in another column, is a nice thing, and may be seen in our Museum.

For the American Bee Journal.

Why is It?

We have just returned from a trip to the St. Louis Exposition, one of the best, if not the best Exposition held in the West.

While there we looked around carefully for a display in the apiarian line, but not a thing to be seen in that way, nor a bee or bee hive, nor a single ounce of honey. We could but inquire of ourselves, why is it? We speak of honey markets but what effort is or has been made to work up a Western market. None that we know of, save friend Muth, of Cincinnati.

Sorry that we cannot attend the National Convention this season, but other engagements prevent.
W. J. ANDREWS.

Columbia, Tenn., Sept. 17, 1878.

For the American Bee Journal.

A Curious Incident.

In Italianizing, I placed a small colony, with queen cell, on a strong colony that I wanted to change queens with, with wire cloth between, expecting after the young queen was fertilized to remove the old queen and let them all go together, but she was lost in going out to meet the drone, and so made a strong colony of the upper one, letting them raise a queen, and took them off. After the time had passed by for the young queen to hatch, I found that the young queen, on returning from her wedding trip, had gone into the lower hive, and being of the same scent, had passed unnoticed, met and killed the old one (which was clipped) and remained in that hive. May we not get a hint from this incident so as to make the changing of queens more easy? You may set me down a strong disbeliever in the Dzierzon theory, in regard to drones being pure from a queen that has met an impure drone.
S. S. BUTLER, M. D.

San Jose, Cal., Sept. 4, 1878.

For the American Bee Journal.

Wire for Foundation, Extractor, &c.

When I wrote the article for the July number on "Wire for Foundation," I described bedding the wire in the foundation by placing in the sun and pressing the wire in with a gum roller. I have now got something better and cheaper. Make a wheel of wood $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, $\frac{1}{8}$ inch thick; place in this oval tin cogs, $\frac{1}{8}$ inch apart and $\frac{1}{8}$ deep; set this wheel in a socket, and you are ready for work. Fasten the wires to foundation as described in the July number; wet a board to fit the frame; place the foundation on this with wires on the upper side; then run the wheel over the wire, just hard enough to bed the wire into the foundation. The wire should be fine, so that it will cut into the foundation, and if it should be a little loose in the frames this wheel will kink it, so that it will work all right. Coarse wire will not bed well, and is a detriment to brood-rearing, as the queen will skip the cells it passes through; but the fine wire



rests on the bottom of the cells, and the queen appears not to notice it. Where the extractor is used, I think this wiring comb is a great invention. I have tested the extractor, by the side of comb honey, for five years, and I can make one-half more money with the extractor, even if I should sell for half the price! This year I ran 33 colonies with the extractor, that made me 6,000 lbs. I divided the 1st of August, and made 65 from 33! The rest I ran to comb; they averaged 78 lbs. of surplus, and were not increased; are not as strong now as my others. I can sell more extracted at 10c. than sections at 15c. The colonies I can sell at \$8; this gives me, after paying for foundation, hives and sections, \$24.25 per colony for the extracted, and \$10 for the comb.

D. S. GIVEN.

Hooperston, Ill., Sept. 20, 1878.

For the American Bee Journal.

Does Pure Honey always Candy?

I have some beautiful extracted honey, taken from the combs the 10th of July, that at this date, Sept. 24th, shows no signs of graining. As regards color, quality and consistency, my patrons think it gilt-edged—at any rate, they pay me a gilt-edged price for it. Now, would it be safe to sell this honey, or simply expose it for sale, in case Dadant's national adulteration law was in operation? For does not Dadant claim that all pure honey candies, "sooner or later?" It may be, however, that this honey does not belong to the "sooner" classification. How is this, friend Dadant?

St. Charles, Ill.

M. M. BALDRIDGE.

For the American Bee Journal.

Honey, &c. at the Tri-State Fair.

The following is a complete list of apiarian products and supplies, exhibited at the Tri-State Fair, held at Toledo, O., during the week ending Sept. 21st, 1878.

Messrs. Riegler & Boldosier, of Adelphia, Ross Co. O., exhibited samples of box honey, which took first premium at the state fair at Columbus, the week previous; also, the combination hive, bee feeder, smoker, single frame nuclei, &c.

Geo. Wilson & Son of Toledo, O., had on exhibition 10 different styles of Langstroth Hives, ranging in price from \$1.00 to \$2.00 each; also, sections, shipping crates, &c.

B. O. Everett exhibited fine samples of extracted clover and buckwheat honey. Also, honey extractors, Bingham's smoker, Muth's, Scofield's and Novice's honey knives.

H. J. Winters exhibited an observation hive, which attracted much attention from its superior workmanship; also, comb honey in sections.

Jno. Y. Detwiler of Toledo, O., exhibited 1 doz. each, of 1 and 2 lb. honey jars, which attracted much attention; also, a half barrel extracted clover honey, all of which was harvested in the heart of the city of Toledo.

It is to be regretted that the managers of the fair did not offer premiums outside of fruits, vegetables and the races, or I should no doubt have had the pleasure of reporting a larger exhibit. As it was, the honey exhibit seems to have been overlooked. For not until Friday evening, and then only upon personal application to the superintendent by the writer, was a committee appointed to examine the display, and enter it in the report of the association.

I. O. U.

Toledo, O., Sept. 23, 1878.

For the American Bee Journal.

Bees Kill A Horse.

A rather singular freak among the bees took place here last Tuesday, resulting in the death of a fine horse. It appears the horse in drawing a load of lime, for use in a new building adjoining the yard where 11 colonies of bees stood, became much heated and was left standing outside the fence, about 12 feet from the bees, suddenly several were noticed about his head, and in less than half a minute, such a scene was never before witnessed; every colony seemed infuriated; all rushed at the horse until his head, neck and body could scarcely be seen. The poor animal could not be moved from the spot; some heroic men covered their faces, a woman led the party, by tying a veil over her hat, and with a broom and a bucket of water pitched at them, then the men followed. The head of the horse was covered several inches thick with them; they continued to throw on buckets of water and scrape off the bees by the quart. Finally they got the harness off, and dragged him away, but the poor animal died that night, in great agony.

W. B. BAKER, M. D.

Bristol, Pa., Sept. 2, 1878.

What shall the Decision be?

"Bees have not done well here this season; they wintered well. The season opened about a month earlier than usual. They did well through March and April, but May set in wet and cold, just as white clover was coming into bloom and continued so through white clover bloom; and the consequence is our honey crop is short, not over one-third of a crop. I have been reading with considerable interest the discussion now going on in the JOURNAL, in regard to the purity of Italian bees. It seems to me that those that have expressed themselves through the JOURNAL, differ widely as to what constitutes pure Italian bees. From my observation and experience I have arrived at the conclusion, that a queen that will uniformly produce three-banded workers and produce young queens that when fertilized by Italian drones, will produce three-banded workers without any exceptions, I think pure Italian, and after they get through this discussion, I think that will be about the points that will be settled upon as fixing the standard of purity of Italian bees.

H. D. EDWARDS.

Delhi, Jersey Co. Ill., Sept. 10, 1878.

STATISTICAL TABLE — FALL OF 1878.

NAME.	LOCATION. County and State.	No. of Colonies Fall of 1877.	No. of Colonies Spring of 1878.	No. of Colonies Fall of 1878.	No. Wintered out-doors.	No. Wintered in-doors.	No. Wintered packed in chaff.	Comb Honey.	Ext'd Honey.	Beeswax.
Aikin, R. C.	Page Co., Iowa	19	19	28	....	19	....	150	935	10
Allen, L.	Clark, Wis.	....	2	8	....	....	....	30	....	1
Allen, J. W.	Lenawee, Mich.	50	15	44	50	....	7	530	....	....
Andrews, C. L.	Point Coupee, La.	12	12	28	12	....	....	....	*200	10
Angell, J. L.	Cortland, N. Y.	....	1	4	....	....	....	60	....	....
Aubert, J. L.	Coles, Ill.	15	14	20	14	....	....	450	....	....
Anderson, J. L.	McHenry, Ill.	84	83	143	....	84	....	3000	....	....
Aylor, R. L.	Boone, Ky.	7	6	13	6	....	6	28	380	....
Baker, Ransom	LaSalle, Ill.	9	7	24	9	....	....	*300	....	8
Barnard, A. J.	LaPorte, Ind.	60	60	98	60	....	....	1228	1215	9
Bartgis, David	Chautauqua, Kan.	8	8	20	8	....	8	....	825	....
Barnett, J. C.	Champaign, O.	2	13	8	2	....	2	115	....	....
Bauernfeind, J.	Winnebago, Wis.	43	40	82	....	43	....	....	2500	10
Barnard, R. C.	St. Joseph, Mich.	2	2	7	2	....	....	292	....	1
Becktell, R. S.	Berrien, Mich.	100	100	200	100	....	....	800	800	13
Bence & Son.	Jefferson, Ky.	76	76	94	76	....	45	700	5800	....
Botsford, A. E.	Delaware, Iowa.	61	51	136	12	39	4	240	3000	25
Bonnewell, A. T.	Ozaukee, Wis.	108	107	150	....	108	....	....	6500	100
Bourgmeyer, John	Fond du Lac, Wis.	21	....	16	....	21	....	....	200	15
Brown, G. W.	Cook, Ill.	12	11	27	12	....	....	500	340	5
Brothers, Mary	Putnam, Ind.	10	10	29	7	....	3	2175	....	....
Brewer, Joel	Wabash, Ind.	20	19	30	19	....	....	744	....	....
Brown, J. E.	Leavenworth, Kan.	7	7	14	7	....	....	40	100	....
Brumme, Carl	Wayne, Mich.	36	28	35	28	....	....	500	180	20
Bradley, H. M.	Bay, Mich.	27	19	77	....	19	....	400	1887	76
Brown, Zadock	Schoharie, N. Y.	33	32	41	33	....	22	2250	....	....
Butler, S. S.	Santa Clara, Cal.	20	20	40	20	....	....	....	2810	20
Bull, T. S.	Porter, Ind.	140	125	180	10	130	....	600	5800	80
Brundridge, T. W.	Baltimore, Md.	8	8	13	8	....	....	300	....	....
Bupp, J. H.	York, Pa.	27	26	32	27	....	3	237	262	10
Burt, C. S.	Cuyahoga, O.	27	27	50	2	25	2	1100	900	50
Camm, Wm.	Scott, Ill.	13	7	22	13	....	....	1000	....	....
Cooley, O. E.	Winnesheik, Iowa.	43	43	80	....	43	....	400	450	10
Crawford, C. C.	Kane, Ill.	50	25	69	....	50	....	....	1000	10
Christ, H.	Stark, O.	11	11	18	11	....	11	540	....	3
Cullen, F.	Onondaga, N. Y.	30	29	60	30	....	30	1420	225	15
Davis, Mark	DuPage, Ill.	9	7	13	7	....	....	....	880	5
Davis, Nathan	Lyons, Kan.	8	6	23	8	....	....	40	....	....
Davis, W. J.	Warren, Pa.	154	153	230	....	154	....	3200	350	....
Day, Levi E.	Dakota, Minn.	51	51	56	....	51	....	160	1750	6
Devol, N. B.	Clark, Ill.	16	16	42	16	....	16	200	180	4
Dick, Jno. W.	Benton, Mo.	72	64	92	64	....	....	410	2930	30
Dines, J. B.	St. Francois, Mo.	32	32	64	32	....	10	No acc't kept	....	....
Dickinson, C. J.	Chenango, N. Y.	56	52	81	7	49	7	2399	399	26
Dipman, Jno. F.	Sandusky, O.	44	42	65	40	....	4	420	2400	56
Drane, E.	Henry, Ky.	53	50	80	24	29	3	900	1900	45
Dunham, Mrs. F.	Brown, Wis.	25	24	42	....	25	....	300	500	10
Edwards, H. D.	Jersey, Ill.	15	15	27	15	....	15	315	125	3
Edwards, Edwin S	Onondaga, N. Y.	34	30	65	6	24	6	600	....	20
Eggleston & Co.	Macon, Mo.	2	2	18	2	....	....	200	1000	....
Elkenberry E.	Butler, Iowa.	46	44	68	....	46	....	600	1950	14
Everett, Wm. P.	Macomb, Mich.	79	23	52	....	79	....	....	4224	60
Fisher, A. J.	Columbiana, O.	45	40	90	45	....	....	1000	....	....
Field, Silas	Franklin, Mass.	10	8	14	5	3	....	40	....	....
Fletcher, W. H.	Benton, Minn.	37	37	53	....	37	....	825	225	....
Forsyth, R.	Lenawee, Mich.	64	176	141	....	64	....	4500	720	12
France, Edwin	Grant, Wis.	100	97	160	97	....	97	1000	5120	80
Fritz, Wm.	St. Louis, Minn.	4	4	11	....	4	....	72	242	....
Franklin, B.	Schoharie, N. Y.	114	109	117	27	87	15	3500	800	40
Freeman, G. M.	Adams, O.	90	70	100	70	....	....	2500	1000	20
Funk, H. W.	McLean, Ill.	9	9	23	9	....	9	500	200	....
Fullilove, J. H.	Boone, Ky.	68	68	163	68	....	....	800	344	....
Garlick, Geo.	Peterboro, Ont.	90	83	104	90	....	....	225	915	10
Glazier, C. E.	Jefferson, N. Y.	22	21	50	....	22	....	500	....	....
Godfrey, E. D.	Montgomery, Iowa	28	23	92	28	....	....	500	....	10
Grout, Wm. H. S.	Chautauqua, N. Y.	51	36	70	51	....	51	50	5100	100



NAME.	LOCATION. County and State.	No. of Colonies Fall of 1877.	No. of Colonies Spring of 1878.	No. of Colonies Fall of 1878.	No. Wintered out-doors.	No. Wintered in-doors.	No. Wintered packed in chaff.	Comb Honey.	Ext'd Honey.	Beeswax.
Green, W. H.	Piscataquis, Me.	3	3	7	2	1		No acc't kept		
Gray, J. L.	Lee, Ill.	65	65	120		65		1999	2222	10
Gustin, A.	Platt, Mo.	4	4	11	4		4		1080	
Hall, D. M.	Rock, Wis.	155	150	185	3	152		50	5000	100
Hamilton, Hugh	Coldwater, Mo.	150	140	174		152			3999	25
Harding, W. D. C.	Clark, Wis.		11	8				52	545	22
Harper, James	Ingham, Mich.	117	\$65	104	21	44	21	800		15
Hawley, Geo. M.	Lancaster, Neb.	108	102	177	1	107		599	1202	25
Harrison, R. W.	Rockingham, Va.	53	47	80	53			2000		
Happe, F. W.	Schoharie, N. Y.	20	20	28	10	10	10	1200		
Hartwell & Berkly	Lee, Ill.	25	25	60	25			350	200	
Heckman, H. G.	St. Joseph, Mich.	7	7	18	7				800	6
Hershhey, E.	Lancaster, Pa.	40	\$38	26	40			450		15
Hixson, Wm.	Montgomery, Ind.	11	11	30	11			700	450	
Hill, V. F.	Clark, Mo.	7	7	15	7			70		
Horton, W. A.	Miami, Ind.	51	44	50	51			525		18
Hollman, J. M.	Fayette, Ky.	22	21	35	22			600	200	
Howlett, W. H. H.	Boone, Ky.	33	33	78	33		33	2000		12
Hollman, N. H.	Barren, Ky.	19	19	35	19			125	650	10
Hubbard, C. S.	Ogle, Ill.	32	17	40	6	26		514	773	19
Hunt, C. H.	Winnebago, Ill.	10	9	24		10		100		
Hunter, J. E.	Jones, Iowa	68	68	110	1	67	1	2600	400	
Hunt, Wm.	Linn, Iowa	220	216	250		220		2600	11400	100
Jewett, S. L.	Cooper, Mo.	28	28	38	28			500		
Jones, Mrs. W. S.	Schoharie, N. Y.	13	13	23		13		425		
Jones, Joseph	Center, Pa.	19	16	20	2	17		75	84	
Jordan, Mrs. M. C.	Linn, Iowa	15	15	28		15		350		15
Kauffman, D.	Moultrie, Ill.	10	10	20	10			300	50	2
Keyes, E. H.	Jasper, Iowa	60	60	90	60		60	No acc't kept		
King, T. F.	Cumberland, Pa.	14	13	50	14		14	85	1350	20
Knowl, D. K.	Jay, Ind.	5	47	18	5			100	40	
Knowles, Jas.	Beaver, Pa.	30	30	44	30		30	900		1
Lamontague, I. B.	Quebec, Can.	4	6	10		10		150		5
Lane, D. P.	Rock, Wis.	121	97	146		97		3000		
Lantz, L. Z.	Logan, O.	18	18	26	18			60	450	5
Larch, E. C. L.	Boone, Mo.	130	130	130		130			15000	
Leonard, L. D.	Fond du Lac, Wis.	14	14	33		14		70	700	10
Link, Dock	Sumner, Tenn.	24	24	37	24		24		700	
Link, Jacob	Sumner, Tenn.	9	9	14	9		9		300	
Lisk, H. B.	Shelby, Ind.	27	25	47	18	7		100	700	15
Lindsly, L., Jr.	Point Coupee, La.	196	171	300					10500	
Liston, E.	Cedar, Mo.	85	84	87	84			No acc't kept		
Lloyd, J. E.	Cortland, N. Y.	73	64	106	73			3350	250	31
Lloyd, T. D.	Winnebago, Wis.	9	7	29		9		300		
Loehr, M. E.	Kosciusko, Ind.	27	27	34		27		500	100	10
Long, Geo. W.	Wayne, Mich.	3	14	11	3		3	255	70	5
Lytie, W. D. F.	Fayette, Ky.	8	7	13	7			50	200	3
Marsh, C. A.	Windsor, Vt.	24	24	30		24		1600	40	10
Marsh, S. K.	Ionia, Mich.	75	70	84		70		1936	2264	
Martin, J. H.	Washington, N. Y.	107	100	115	3	104	3	1100	9000	25
Mason, M. E.	Ashtabula, O.	28	28	64	28			1200	150	10
Mead, J. C.	Lee, Ill.	23	\$13	33	23		23	200		
McIntyre, Jos.	Fannin, Texas.	30	26	35	26			400	150	
McQueen, C.	Tuscarawas, O.	15	\$19	36	15		15	500	975	20
Maclin, W. T.	Crockett, Tenn.	12	8	18	8			150		
McNitt, E.	Franklin, O.	39	35	52	39		39	1420	480	
Milster, M. H.	Perry, Mo.	42	41	51	42			100	1700	
Minchin, S.	Cayuga, N. Y.	13	11	28	13			375	30	15
Moore, J. E.	Genesee, N. Y.	82	62	116	82		82	4000		34
Monchee, Miss B.	Louisa, Iowa	4	4	9		4		122	114	5
Morrow & Cassell.	Rock Island, Ill.	15	11	31	15			No acc't kept		
Mumaw, J. W.	DeWitt, Ill.	5	5	12	5			135	193	
Murray, J. B.	Harden, O.	60	59	125	59			1000	3000	10
Newman, J. C.	Wyoming, N. Y.	63	\$55	103	63		20	7000		50
Oatman & Co., J.	Kane, Ill.	185	\$175	\$290		185		7499	499	150
Oldham, S. M.	Franklin, O.	9	7	25	7	2		150		5
Owen, I. D.	Buchanan, Iowa	10	10	25		10		317		
Parent, J. I.	Saratoga, N. Y.	93	73	101	32	61	32	3411	1656	35

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Palmer, D. D.	Mercer, Ill.	205	196	250	205	5300	3400	105
Peck, D. J.	Susquehanna, Pa.	54	53	71	54	2399	20
Pelham, J. E.	Tioga, N. Y.	28	26	56	4	24	4	1175	50	5
Pelon, Martin	Ottawa, Mich.	38	35	45	38	....	....	1500	300	....
Perry, Fayette	Kane, Ill.	19	18	42	....	19	....	65	1200	13
Pickup, E.	Bureau, Ill.	18	18	48	18	....	....	840	....	....
Pierson, N. H.	Stark, Ill.	8	8	26	5	....	....	200	....	....
Pierce, Warren	Portage, O.	40	38	46	37	3	12	1999	....	10
Pike, Edwin	Grant, Wis.	77	76	92	....	77	....	80	1480	6
Poppleton, O. O.	Chickasaw, Iowa.	57	57	123	....	....	57	200	3400	20
Pratt, B. F.	Lee, Ill.	6	10	20	6	....	6	100	828	10
Quitck, S.	Montgomery, Ind.	8	8	24	8	....	....	....	335	....
Ralston, James	Benton, Iowa.	13	13	20	....	13	....	250	350	7
Rofkar, H.	Ottawa, O.	18	17	33	18	....	18	200	600	....
Rogers, Clark	Alleghany, N. Y.	12	98	162	3	95	....	3100	200	....
Roop, H. F.	Franklin, Mass.	13	12	18	13	....	....	No acc't kept	....	....
Sawyer, O. L.	Kennebeck, Me.	61	53	89	1	60	....	500	....	20
Scudder, L. H.	Mercer, Ill.	125	117	200	....	124	1	2500	100	15
Scheerer, Jno.	Platt, Mo.	9	9	27	9	....	9	....	2200	....
Scovell, H.	Cherokee, Kan.	113	113	175	113	....	....	....	1000	....
Sharp, M. T.	Henderson, Ill.	103	98	127	6	97	....	1200	925	60
Shaffer, N. M.	Dubuque, Iowa.	....	1	3	....	....	....	....	175	2
Simon, Chas	Noble, Ind	7	6	16	6	....	....	150	00	7
Smith, Jno. H.	Crockett, Tenn	10	10	20	10	....	....	499	499	10
Simpkins, A. B.	Schoharie, N. Y.	40	39	50	40	....	....	2000	....	....
Smith, C. T.	St. Clair, Ill.	74	65	75	14	....	....	5	10	16
Snyder & Son	Albany, N. Y.	120	110	150	20	100	....	2000	....	30
Snider, G. W. D.	Spencer, Ky.	40	40	63	40	....	....	1650	....	22
Soden, G. C.	Ontario, N. Y.	122	120	128	122	....	122	7250	50	62
Sprague, G. H.	Steuben, N. Y.	58	56	80	7	51	7	640	500	20
Stanley, O.	Nelson, Ky.	4	4	11	4	....	....	254	....	....
Sterritt, J. P.	Mercer, Pa.	57	52	70	57	....	57	1600	400	....
Stevenson, J. B.	San Bernardino, Cal	175	138	*200	....	....	....	....	49280	325
Stephens, B. R.	DeKalb, Ill.	....	80	†102	....	....	....	999	7999	80
Stump, Wm.	Hamilton, O.	88	82	126	42	46	20	800	400	10
Sutcliff, Jas.	Madison, N. Y.	42	42	60	....	42	....	1500	750	26
Tabor, L. A.	Hampden, Mass.	8	8	11	2	6	2	200	....	....
Tarr, C. M.	Monroe, Wis.	3	3	12	....	3	....	150	....	....
Taylor, R. C.	New Hanover, N.C.	....	2	8	....	....	....	300	....	3
Taylor, M. F.	Hennepin, Minn.	39	39	60	....	39	....	400	....	....
Tenny, Nelson	Monroe, N. Y.	57	55	60	57	....	....	2000	....	40
Thorn, J. C.	Wellington, Can.	31	31	61	....	31	....	20	1400	12
Thompson, J. A.	Livingston, N. Y.	19	17	27	17	....	17	1501	77	....
Tibbetts, A. J.	Dunn, Wis.	6	6	22	2	4	6	300	....	....
Tracey, S. P.	Gr. Traverse, Mich.	2	2	4	....	2	....	75	335	2
Triem, S.	Blackhawk, Iowa.	38	37	60	....	38	....	500	....	5
Truman, L.	Hillsdale, Mich.	40	37	77	....	40	....	....	2500	30
Van Horn, G. A.	Lucas, O.	8	§11	20	11	....	11	....	987	24
Wade, Walter	Tippecanoe, Ind.	15	14	28	15	....	....	300	125	....
Wainwright, L. M.	Hamilton, Ind.	3	3	11	....	3	....	....	....	....
Walser, H. T.	Richland, Wis.	6	6	16	6	....	....	50	....	....
Ward, W. S.	Albany, N. Y.	50	49	75	....	49	....	2840	160	....
Warren, H. H.	Wayne, Mich.	13	11	15	13	....	....	113	....	....
Washburn, F. H.	Outagamie, Wis.	28	26	50	28	....	28	2000	300	....
Weatherby, A.	Meeker, Minn.	9	6	9	2	7	....	132	....	....
Wellington, E.	Tremont, Iowa.	61	61	99	61	....	61	120	2000	30
Welshman, E. L.	Warren, Pa.	30	30	54	30	....	30	500	1000	....
Whitker, F. M.	Putnam, Ill.	43	42	69	42	....	....	500	....	....
Wilcox, F.	Juneau, Wis.	45	43	50	7	23	5	800	....	7
Willard, W. J.	Union, Ill.	12	12	27	12	....	....	250	156	4
Wilson, E. T.	Dodge, Neb.	....	8	22	....	....	....	No acc't kept	....	....
Winfield, J.	Ionis, O.	....	29	46	....	....	....	1072	500	....
Worrall, J. R.	Crockett, Tenn.	50	45	52	50	....	....	500	2000	30
Worthington, W. S.	Queens, N. Y.	21	18	50	....	21	....	....	100	....

REFERENCES.—* Estimated to the end of the season ; † Purchased some ; § Sold some ; ‡ Raised and sold queens.



Our Letter Box.

Mauston, Wis., Sept. 10, 1878.

"I lost 13 colonies early in the spring from robbers and mice. I lose a few every year from bad boys in the neighborhood. I use box hives and 10 lb. boxes. I intend to make the study of hives and boxes an important consideration this winter, and start anew next spring."

F. WILCOX.

[As you are using 10 lb. boxes, we strongly advise you to adopt the prize box. No other package sells well in this market.—Ed.]

Boscobel, Wis., Sept. 16, 1878.

"The past summer has been a failure here. It has been impossible for honey to secrete in good flowing quantities on account of excessive rains. Our bees have enough good honey, well capped for ordinary winter and spring use. Colonies are very strong, and thrifty, and we look forward for a better season in 1879."

EDWIN PIKE.

Clark's Fork, Mo., Sept. 15, 1878.

"This season has been a rather poor one for honey. For a short time in June our bees did remarkable well, but when the drouth set in they quit work and have done but little work since, with no prospect for fall pasture, although I think the majority will have enough honey to winter on."

S. L. JEWETT.

Franklin, N. Y., Sept. 19, 1878.

"It has been the poorest season for honey in this section, I have ever known for 10 years. All my hives have plenty of honey for winter. I placed my boxes inside of hives, they seem to like to store there better than in top boxes. My hive contains 8 frames $10\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{4}$. After they get nicely started, I place the boxes on top and put empty comb in center of brood-chamber or foundation. I have tried a few frames of foundation and like it very much for brood, but don't want any more for starts in boxes; nice white comb is better."

BENJ. FRANKLIN.

Riverton, Iowa, Sept. 13, 1878.

"The best part of my honey season has been the last 3 weeks. I have about 600 lbs. in the hive yet to extract and about 200 lbs. comb honey to take off. We have had frosts for the last 2 nights and I am afraid that it ends the honey season. I was trying to get 600 sections filled. I have 125 filled and the rest about ready to cap, but if the season is over, the capping I suppose is over also. My crop of honey last season, was about 4,000 lbs. I have had over 100 frames of honey melt down this summer. One hive of a capacity inside of 7,500 inches, with 24 frames, all melted in a heap, the first I ever had."

E. WELLINGTON.

San Bernardino, Cal., Sept. 8, 1878.

"After last year's honey season we divided and got fertile queens, all doing well, but instead of letting well enough alone, we thought we would improve the stock; having

received some fine Italians from the east; and killed off a good many laying hybrid queens, but the season being late, and drones scarce, we failed in replacing a good many of them, hence the reason of such a discrepancy in numbers between fall and spring. We prevent swarming all we can, but last spring several did come out, 12 of which we hived; which made up our number to 150 in all, and that is the number we worked this summer. This valley of ours is seldom noticed as a honey producing one, the neighboring counties San Diego and Los Angeles generally get all the credit. Now I wish to state, that this valley is equal to any of them, and in a year, such as last, far superior, for while those counties were losing colonies by the hundreds, none of our beekeepers lost any by starvation, but instead, most of them were able to ship considerable surplus honey. From our 102 colonies we received 11,000 lbs. This year all have done remarkably well, few averaging less than 200 lbs. to the colony. As to quality it can't be beat. These are facts, which ought to give San Bernardino honey a reputation equal to any made in California. Those who have used foundation most have done the best, and all agree that it is essentially necessary for large honey yields."

JAMES B. STEVENSON.

Fish Creek, Wis., Sept. 13, 1878.

"I wintered my one colony of bees in my dwelling house, in a room up stairs. They came out in the spring all right, but they had no honey in the spring to keep them through the wet, cold, weather we had here, and I feared they would not do much, so I sent to you in June, for a nuclei colony, but before they arrived, I saw that my bees were queenless, and I put them together in the Langstroth hive, and they have increased to 2 good colonies. I have kept them from swarming by giving them plenty of room, to work in, over the breeding apartment, and they have done well, and are the nicest and largest bees that I ever saw. I am going to try wintering out doors this winter, and shall report in the spring how they did."

WM. DARLING.

Canandaigua, N. Y., Aug. 31, 1878.

"My 122 colonies I obtained from 52 colonies, in box hives, bought in the fall of 1877, although they were wintered with cut straw on top and straw on all sides except back and front. I transferred them in the spring of 1878; taking out the drone comb, was the cause of my getting so much wax. I used 20 lbs. worker foundation to replace the drone comb. Also, used about 15 lbs foundation as starters in sections. Have fed my bees nothing this year and will not be obliged to feed any. I had 40 lbs. or thereabouts of honey that I took from them, when transferring, I fed that back. I have made no estimate of that. Instead of chaff I used cut oat straw. I did not get honey from 20 of my colonies. The season here has been anything but first class. Bees lost 5 days in the best of white clover bloom, on account of its being cold and rainy. Also one day in basswood season. Have taken no honey from blacks since July 25th, nor do I think I will get any. My Italians have made about

25 lbs. each, since July 25. It has been 2 weeks since they stopped work. Think I have all the surplus honey I will get this season. Have no sections on at present."

G. C. SODEN.

Mt. Auburn, Ind., Sept. 7, 1878.

"My bees commenced to swarm in April, and kept it up until the middle of August. Would have had a very good season for honey, if we had been prepared for it. Nearly all are now in good condition; plenty of bees and raising more, and gathering their winter stores. A sorghum mill is going to start within half a mile; I do not yet know what plan I shall adopt, to keep my bees away."

H. B. LISK.

Genoa, DeKalb Co. Ill., Sept., 16, 1878.

"The honey season has been a very good one in this section, especially for those that have managed their bees with a proper knowledge of the science of bee-keeping. The notice in the JOURNAL last winter, that I would sell 80 colonies of bees, was noticed by Mr. Stephens, of Toronto, Canada. A short correspondence and a bargain was made. In consequence of the long continued cold weather before June, one-half of the colonies were reduced to very few bees. But as the white clover began to blossom, they were soon in a condition for gathering honey. And with his knowledge of the science of bee-keeping and a perseverance in the business, Mr. Stephens has finished the season with the following result: 103 colonies, 8,000 lbs. of extracted honey, a large amount of comb-honey, not yet removed from the hives, 80 lbs. of wax, and plenty of honey now in hives for winter stores. The bees were moved 3 miles from their old stand, with the exception of 2, the product from those 2, were 9 new colonies, and 280 lbs. of extracted honey, and with not a particle of feed but what they gathered from the fields; have now enough for winter."

A. STILES.

Warsaw, Canada, Sept. 10, 1878.

"The season here has been poor for honey. Continued frost in May and to 10th of June, left my hives without honey at that time, and several swarmed out to avoid starvation, but from that time up to date the season has been very good. Colonies all in good order for winter, having a large amount of brood in them now. I shall extract about 300 lbs. more yet from them and still leave plenty for winter stores."

G. GARLICK.

South Pendleton, Ohio, Sept. 15, 1878.

"The weather of the month of June ruined our prospect for this year, which up to that time was never better. I calculated on 4,000 lbs. of surplus honey, but got only 1,200 lbs. I had only 5 natural swarms. The hive I use is a non-swarm; its capacity at one time is 132 lbs., but I never allow a box or frame to remain on after it is capped over. After honey season is over I get my increase by taking one frame from each hive, putting 6 together and giving them a young queen of my own raising; having 15 nuclei. My increase has not been all from my own; having bought 3 and traded hives

and honey for some, and had some on shares. Bees in this locality go into winter quarters strong in young bees and plenty of honey. I am now preparing my bees for winter in chaff, with carpet over bees and no honey board. My hive holds 8 frames 11x17 $\frac{1}{2}$."

W. STUMP.

Neosho Rapids, Kan. Sept. 9, 1878.

"My bees have increased well, this season, by natural swarming. They made no surplus honey until about two weeks ago. I took 40 lbs. from 2 hives last Saturday. I have 1 colony which increased to 7 since last spring, by natural swarming."

NATHAN DAVIS.

Glen Rock, Pa., Sept. 7, 1878.

"There was no difference last spring in those colonies wintered in chaff or without, owing probably to our mild winter. I have good prospects for 300 or 400 lbs. of comb honey more this season; buckwheat harvest is good thus far."

J. H. BUPP.

Hudson, Mich., Sept. 16, 1878.

"My loss was heavy last spring. I wintered under a shed facing the east. All went into winter quarters strong and full of honey, but they dwindled all winter. They were in American hives and had a fair amount of ventilation and mats on top. I have a repository but I deemed it too warm last season to winter in. I think I will winter in chaff next season, as only 1 colony died that was treated that way last winter."

J. W. ALLEN.

Central City, Iowa, Sept. 16, 1878.

"Can Italian bees gather honey from red clover?"

Mrs. M. C. JORDAN.

[Only a little.—ED.]

Washington Co., Wis., Sept. 8, 1878.

"This is my first year's experience with bees. I have increased from 1 to 7; have taken 100 lbs. of surplus and have on the hives 50 lbs. more of surplus honey—about one half each of comb and extracted, leaving at least 30 lbs. for each colony to winter on. 'Foundation' and 'dividing colonies' did it!"

GEO. W. JONES.

[Seven colonies from 1 is "good enough!" but with 150 lbs. of surplus honey, it is astonishing. True, the use of "comb foundation" and judiciously "dividing colonies" will do wonders. If you have young bees enough, and give them 30 lbs. of good capped honey to winter on, they should winter well; and if so, you have nothing to be ashamed of from your first year's experience with bee-keeping.—ED.]

Garden Plain, Ill., Sept. 3, 1878.

"Bees are at work again, but the season will be a short one, being curtailed both at the beginning and end. They worked on clover about 4 weeks. On account of the drouth, the fall crop did not begin till about Aug. 20, and it will be a very light yield."

R. R. MURPHY.



Cedar Vale, Kan., Sept. 15, 1878.

"Our fall honey rush is just commencing. Aster and golden rod is in abundance, we have two kinds of astor here, both excellent honey yielders. My bees have at this time an average of 45 or 50 lbs. of capped honey, and my reason for leaving that amount is that I am as yet unacquainted with the country, and know not what the fall resources for late honey will be, but indications at this time are good. I think there will be considerable surplus yet. I find ready sale for extracted honey at 20 cents per lb. Could sell all my bees at \$10. per colony, but intend keeping them, as they pay me well. My honey is a No. 1 article, very clear and white, and weighs 12 or 12½ lbs. per gallon." D. BARTGIS.

New Richmond, Ind., Sept. 16, 1878.

"I wintered about 100 colonies without loss, on summer stands packed with chaff. Had 10 snowed under 4 feet deep for a month, 2 years ago, and all was well. I think we should breed for the characteristics we desire in a working colony, rather than "fancy" or appearance. I want good box-workers, no matter what the size or appearance of the queen. I have 1 colony that has not swarmed for 3 or 4 years, and is always in good condition and gives good surplus." J. O. SHEARMAN.

Hamilton, O., Sept. 21, 1878.

FRIEND NEWMAN.—I will send you a condensed report of the meeting of the South-western Ohio Bee Keepers' Association, held in Lebanon, O., Sept. 14, 1878.

Drones can be kept for late queen-rearing, by taking a queen from a colony that has plenty of them, and keeping her in a nucleus till late in the season, then she can be returned. Queens will shake about in the cell when they are dead, but if they are alive they will not. Nine lbs. of honey will last a moderate sized colony from Nov. 1st until April 1st, but a good colony requires 25 lbs. to last through winter and spring. "Root" and "King" smokers were on exhibition, besides a "Savage" queen cage, and "Mitchell" bee hive. As Mitchell is trying to get a hold in our neighborhood, I would take it as a favor, if any one that has had dealings with him that were not satisfactory, would send me a short account of it, on a postal card, to be used at our next meeting. Has he raised any queens at Sandusky this last summer, as per his pamphlet? Next meeting to be held in the same place on the second Friday in February, 1879.

W. S. BOYD, Sec.

Peoria, Ill., Sept. 22, 1878.

"Noticing that a colony of bees were not as populous as they ought to be, I examined them. Lo! and behold, the brood-nest wasn't there. It was entirely cut out in some frames, leaving openings as large as my hand; in others it was cut down to the base of the cells, and looked as if it had been newly varnished. There was not a cell of brood in the hive; and not one for the queen to lay in, for the rest of the frames were all capped honey. It had a fair amount of bees, a queen and a large amount of capped honey. There was no moths, and the

hive was clean, as though they had just finished house cleaning. Why did they cut out brood-nest?" MRS. L. HARRISON.

[We cannot explain this freak without more particulars. Was the comb old? This sometimes causes them to tear it down. Has any of our readers had similar experience? If so, we would like to hear from. —ED.]

Greene, Iowa, Sept. 9, 1878.

"My bees have done well since the first of August. I got all my surplus, 2,500 lbs., in four weeks, from buckwheat and fireweed. I have one hive on the scales; the most gathered in one day was 6¼ lbs., and the least 2¼ lbs." E. EIKENBERRY.

Byron, N. Y., Sept. 9, 1878.

Hive No. 79 has so far given me one hundred and three boxes of white honey, weighing two hundred and eight pounds." J. E. MOORE.

[Good enough. That must be your "banner colony," is it not, friend Moore? —ED.]

Hope, O., Sept. 7, 1878.

"Instead of an extraordinary honey yield we had almost a failure. Comb foundation has helped me out of many difficulties already. I never saw bees stronger or working more vigorously than now." E. MCNITT.

Vinton, Iowa, Sept. 9, 1878.

"I began the season with twelve colonies, and had nine swarms. One of the swarms left the hive after the queen began to lay, and united with another swarm. White clover yielded abundantly. From then till the end of August they did nothing. Now they are at work on fall flowers, which are abundant here. I have ready sale for all my honey at fifteen and twenty cts. per pound." JAS. RALSTON.

Lincolnton, Ind., Sept. 14th, '78.

"I think I have done pretty well this season. I robbed my bees a little too much last season; half of them would have starved if I had not fed them. I examined them early and found one colony starved to death. I immediately bought \$5 worth of sugar and fed it all to them. This lasted till white clover began to blossom, but just before the clover began to bloom they pitched in and robbed out one colony, leaving but eighteen colonies. I have sold all my honey at twenty cents per lb. It was pronounced the nicest comb honey in the market." JOEL BREWER.

Nodaway Mills, Ia., Sept. 9, 1878.

"Bees in this part of the country are storing from buckwheat, smart-weed, spanish needle and golden rod; but the past few days has been so cold, that they could not do much. The spanish needle honey I like very much; it is clearer, but a little thinner than buckwheat, but very pleasant to the taste, after standing for awhile. Gathering has been good all summer until the last of August, except about 2 weeks before and

during basswood bloom. The honey stored then, principally mustard, was clear but very thin. The first part of the season was very wet."
R. C. AIKIN.

Grant, Ky., Sept. 23, 1878.
"Bees are doing well now on smart-weed and other wild bloom; the golden rod is not quite in bloom, but will be in about a week from now."
R. L. AYLOR.

Hubbard, O., Sept. 17, '78.
"The season here has been good. I sell comb honey at 25 cents per lb; extracted, 6 lbs. for \$1.00. Wholesale, 15@20 cents. I could not get so much were it not in small sections."
J. WINFIELD.

Macon, Mo., Sept. 8, '78.
"Wintered 18 colonies; 2 starved; sold 8 in the spring, at \$6. each, leaving 8. Have Italianized and built up to 51 strong colonies of 8 to 12 frames each. Have taken 1200 lbs. of honey, and expect several hundred pounds more."
C. EGGLESTON.

Walton, Ky., Sept. 9 '78.
"My bees did well, and all in good condition for winter. I use the Langstroth and Mitchell hives—the former I like best for comb honey production, the latter for wintering."
JOHN H. FULLILOVE.

Adams Center, N. Y., Sept. 9, 1878.
"Early frosts and wet weather following, ruined the spring honey crop. Then they swarmed too much, and the extreme hot weather, caused many of the combs to melt down. Another year I shall try to prevent swarming and work for box honey. My bees are in good shape for winter. May have to feed a little."
C. E. GLAZIER.

Elliston, O., Sept. 9, 1878.
"My bees are storing honey now from bonaset and golden rod. I will get two or three barrels more of honey. I lost two colonies in the spring by being queenless; and two by moving them into the country. Box-honey is almost a failure this season, on account of too much rain."
JOHN F. DIPMAN.

Haskinsville, N. Y., Sept. 9, '78.
"This has been a very poor season for honey. With more bees and better advantages for taking honey than last year, I have taken only about one-third the amount of honey I then had. It has been a fruitful season and plenty of bloom, but it was too wet for honey."
GEO. H. SPRAGUE.

Ada, O., Aug. 28, 1878.
"I have gradually increased from ten log gums, bought in the spring of 1875, to one hundred and twenty-five colonies at this date. During the latter part of July and first of August, the Italians worked on my large English clover by the ten thousands, from morn till dusk. The family house and section boxes tell bad stories on the black bees. It has been said, that blacks are best for storing box honey, my experience is this: give the Italians a Langstroth hive and at a proper time the right kind of sections, and

they will leave the black bees in the shade. I have no queens for sale. All having Italians in movable frame hives should use an extractor. Comb-foundation and the extractor combined with the Langstroth hive, and well developed intellect, will make the Italian mothers smile, while her sons and daughters will not fail, under ordinary circumstances, to well satisfy their master. Bees are doing but little now, about surplus honey, though, they are feeding an unusual amount of brood. Buckwheat, bonaset, golden rod and smart-weed, are abundant and make them a good fall pasturage."
J. B. MURRAY

Berne, N. Y., Sept. 6, '78.
Spring opened very fine, and brood-rearing was far in advance of the usual season, but from May 9th, to the middle of June, we had more or less rain, followed by frosts and cold weather. Swarms that were apparently about issue, killed their drones and did but little. The latter part of June and July has been warm and more favorable. Buckwheat bloomed in August, and bees are doing finely."
M. SNYDER & SON.

Jonesboro, Ill., Sept. 9, '78.
"The spring yield was poor, on account of so much wet weather. The last two weeks have been splendid, but I have not had the bees to gather in the honey. They were thinned out by the "bee killer" during the buckwheat bloom. My hives were full of bees when the buckwheat began to bloom, and in less than ten days they looked as if they had been swarming. The "bee killers" infested the buckwheat fields by thousands. I saw them nearly as thick as the bees. It has been a great disappointment. I fed my bees all through July, and had the hives crowded with young bees, to take advantage of the fall flowers."
W. J. WILLARD.

Duncan, Ill., Sept. 10, 1878.
"I am trying the Langstroth hive. The bees have built between the end of the frames and the hive. I think there is too much space. As to bees freezing, I think there is more smothered than frozen. I always give my bees more ventilation in winter than in summer. I use a double-wall hive. The bees are protected against both heat and cold. I have had bees for 40 years. I take the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL and think it the "boss." It interests me much. Success to its Editors."
W. H. PIERSON.

[Evidently there was too much space between the ends of the frames and body of the hive. It should be $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch. If more, it is too much.—ED.]

Swanton, O., Sept. 3, '78.
"I had a heavy swarm come out early in May, from a hive that lost its queen; gave it empty combs on July 23d. I extracted one hundred and fifty-eight pounds of honey from one colony, Aug. 26. I have taken nineteen queens from my yard, and had twenty colonies, from which I got nine hundred and eighty-seven pounds of honey, and twenty-four pounds of wax. I left four solid frames to each hive. I only had eleven



colonies last April. I would like to get a queen that will produce as many and just as good honey gatherers, and brighter queens, than the one that I have taken one hundred and fifty-eight pounds of honey from.

NOVICE.

Garland, Pa., Sept. 5, 1878.

DEAR EDITOR:—Your suggestions in regard to our National Society awarding prizes at apiarian exhibitions, we think well-timed and appropriate. It is not only necessary that bee-keepers should attend our conventions, but they should be made so attractive, that it would bring both, consumers and producers together for mutual protection against our common enemy—the sharks of our profession, and long may you live to deal sledge-hammer blows right and left, for the right against imposition and fraud, in whatever form it appears.”

JNO. F. EGGLESTON.

Strait's Corners, Sept. 9, '78.

“The honey season has been poor; white clover about half a crop, buckwheat a two-thirds crop. With a good season I should have doubled the amount of surplus. Bees are all strong with plenty of stores for winter. Shall winier twenty colonies in the cellar and thirty-six out of doors, packed in chaff. Is it necessary, in out-door wintering, to cut passages through the combs when they are provided with a passage way over the top-bar of frames, with quilt and one foot deep of chaff in front, and six inches on each side and rear end?”

J. E. PELHAM.

[Certainly not. The passage-way over the frames will do. Do not leave too much space; two or three sticks placed across the frames, sufficiently large to keep the quilt up high enough for the bees to pass is sufficient.—ED.]

Detroit, Mich., Sept. 9, '78.

“I commenced bee-keeping eighteen years ago, when I found out that the cruel process of killing bees to get at the honey was abandoned. Not knowing anything about bees, I was cheated by a soldier of whom I bought twenty colonies, which I had to reduce to twelve in the fall. For safe keeping I put them in a barn. The next winter, a very mild one, killed half of them. I Italianized the six remaining ones, and lost them all in the next two years. After two years I bought one colony in a common box-hive, transferred it to one of my simple box-hives with eight movable frames of the same size as in the New Langstroth hive, and increased them slowly. Now, I always keep them out doors, have sometimes lost none, sometimes one-quarter or one-third, but in the winter of 1874-5, when I went to Germany, I lost all but six. Eight colonies of the twenty-eight which I had last spring, I lost by robbers in my own apiary and from others. They might have been weak, but they were not queenless, because I found brood in every one of them. Of the twenty colonies, I obtained eleven first, and five second swarms. Some four or five colonies brought three swarms, which I put back to

the parent-colony. The nine remaining ones gave most of the comb honey which I secured this year, and the extracted winter-killed colonies.”

DR. CARL BRUMME.

Bricksville, O., Aug., 20, '78.

“The only reason why my report is not from one-third to one-half more, is from the entire destruction by fire of all my stock of hives, frames, cases, sections, foundation, etc., at the beginning of the season. I lost four or five buildings and all my stock of bee fixtures. Consequently when the swarming season came on I was obliged to place the bees in supers and tops, which of course was not available for comb honey. The season here has been a splendid one and everybody's bees seem to have done well. My greatest difficulty was to get enough sections to keep them going.”

CHAS. S. BURT.

Platteville, Wis., Sept. 9, '78.

“We had a poor season for bees. White clover yielded well, but basswood was a failure. They are at work now on fall flowers. I had to double up some fifteen colonies. My bees in the ‘Home Apiary’ are in the south-east corner of my land, near the road, and they sometimes sting passers-by. My neighbor on the east, bought the farm knowing the bees were there, and is bothered some by them. Am I liable for damages if they sting those who pass in the road, or sting horses and cause them to ‘run’ and do damage?”

E. FRANCE.

[We cannot say how to decide the law point, but if the case were ours, we should move the bees to a more retired place before another sun-set. We have no right to annoy our neighbors, or cause them damage simply for our own gratification. We think common humanity and courtesy would dictate their immediate removal.—ED.]

San Jose, Cal., Sept. 4, '78.

“My yield of honey would have been fully one-third more, but have been Italianizing with a very fine strain of Italians. Received bees from several different ones, but do not find any Eastern strain as fine in color or looks, or as industrious, as our best California raised Italians. My best ones come nearly up to friend Brooks' standard, except the drones are not quite all perfectly three-banded. I think that this State will in time, on account of its climate, produce the very best strains of Italians. Will some one give an essay on the best way to get the Italians off from the combs? They decidedly object to being brushed off, and shake off very hard.”

S. S. BUTLER, M. D.

Vermont, Ill., Sept. 10, 1878.

“Enclosed find photograph of straw hive, with which I have been experimenting. Straw is 1½ inches thick, very compact and thoroughly painted on outside. The corners are of galvanized iron, and straw is laced with copper wire, and they can be made rapidly.

W. J. ATKINSON.

[After a trial, we would like to hear the result.—ED.]

"I have been reading the JOURNAL on the purity of queens. It is sickening. Of course such will be the result of those who take in the Dzierzon theory. I know a man who believes that the earth is flat and four-square, and like Joshua, that the sun rises and sets. Ever man that has pure bees knows that hybrids are better workers, and fight with the same energy that they work. Is it sufficient evidence that a mule is pure because it can do more work than a horse? Two and three years ago I reared queens from one that never failed to duplicate herself—no black tip nor leather-colored queens, but the color of new gold. Last season I reared from a queen that never failed to duplicate herself, and never produced one with a black tip. I reared fifteen this spring from a queen, and couldn't tell one from another. The balance of the season I bred from any one. Have 80 colonies. ADD BAIR.

"The season here has not been very favorable for the production of honey. There was only about three weeks that bees did well on white clover. After July 10th there seemed to be no sweetness in the clover owing, I suppose, to the heavy rains that prevailed; and from that time till buckwheat came in blossom, bees did not gather enough honey to keep them. Since the advent of buckwheat, they have done very well. And now, since the basswood is gone, there is plenty of forage in motherwort, golden rod, smart-weed, &c., so that our bees are getting in good shape for wintering. We have not used the extractor since July 15th, but could do so now with some of our heaviest colonies. This much I have learned within the past year, : that where I sold a man honey last year, I have sold him five times the amount this. And I think that is the way to solve the problem of disposing of our surplus honey, by creating a home market.

A. E. BOTSFORD.

"This has been a poor season. My bees ate 3 times as much honey last March and April as common, and had to be fed in May. I did not extract any honey until the 16th of July. When I saw the basswood was a failure, I extracted 800 lbs. and had to stop on account of robbing. I thought I could extract about 800 lbs. more, but the honey did not come and the bees ate up a part of their early stores. They have been gaining some for the past week, from golden rod, which is nearly in full bloom now. My bees are at work in boxes, enough at present, to hold 1,200 lbs. but as they are only just now beginning to cap part of it over, I call it 800 lbs. in my report. It is too early to give a report of the fall honey. It is possible to get as much surplus honey after the 10th of this month as before, as the brood-chambers are now pretty well filled with the golden rod honey, which is the very best for wintering bees on; and even for my eating it is better than any clover honey I ever ate. Basswood is best and lightest.

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When ordering Extractors, give outside dimensions of frame or frames to be used, length of top-bar, width and depth of frame just under top-bar.

In consequence of the dearth of small currency in the country, we will receive either one, two or three cent stamps, for anything desired from this office.

Strangers wishing to visit our office and Museum of Implants for the Apiary, should take the Madison street-cars (going west). They pass our door.

Additional copies can be made to clubs at any time at the same rate. Specimen copies, Posters, and Illustrated Price List sent free upon application, for canvassing.

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We will send a tested Italian Queen to any one sending us three subscribers to THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL with \$6.00. Premium Queens will in every case be tested, but not sent till after July 1st.

Write name and post-office address plainly. If there is no express office at your post-office address, be sure to give your nearest express office when ordering anything by express. Give plain directions how goods are to be sent.

Seeds or samples of merchandise can be mailed for one cent per ounce. Printed matter one cent for every two ounces. These must be tied up; if pasted, they are subject to letter postage. *Don't send small packages by express, that can just as well be sent by mail.*

For the convenience of bee-keepers, we have made arrangements to supply, at the lowest market prices, Imported or tested Italian Queens, Full Colonies, Hives, Extractors and anything required about the Apary. Our Illustrated Catalogue and Price List will be sent free, on application.

We have gotten up a "Constitution and By-Laws," suitable for local Associations, which we can supply, with the name and location of any society printed, at \$2 per hundred copies, postpaid. If less than 100 are ordered, they will have a blank left for writing in the name of the Association, etc. Sample copy will be sent for a three-cent postage stamp.

Our answer to all who ask credit is this: We sell on small margins, and cannot afford to take the risks of doing a credit business. If we did such a business we should be obliged to add at least 10 to 20 per cent. more to our prices, to make up for those who would never pay, and to pay the expenses of keeping book-keepers and lawyers. We would have to make every customer would not think to their advantage.—This rule we must make general in order not to do injustice to any one. The cash system gives all the advantage to cash customers, while the credit system works to their injury. In justice to all we must have a cash system. Cash with the order, for all Arabian supplies.



North-western Ohio Convention.

The North-western Ohio Bee-keepers' Society, will meet at Toledo, O., Thursday Oct. 3, 1878, in Druid Hall, at 10 A.M. All bee-keepers and others interested in apian matters, are cordially invited to attend our convention, and bring anything of interest to bee-keepers, such as extractors, honey-knives, section boxes, bee hives, frames, &c. Membership fee 50 cents. Ladies free.

W. F. WILLIAMS, *Pres.*

DANIEL KEPLER, *Sec.* Napoleon, O.

[By special request, we shall attend this Convention, at least, for a few hours, on Thursday.—ED.]

Albany County Association.

The Second Semi-Annual Convention of the Albany County, N. Y., Bee-keepers' Association, will be held on Tuesday Oct. 14, 1878, at the Latham House, Chesterville, Town of Westerlo, at 10 A.M. We trust Albany Co. bee-keepers will attend in full force, and do all in their power to make the time spent, both instructive and agreeable. While they are free to bring any hive or apparatus pertaining to bee-culture, we trust that the time of the Association will not be spent in exhibiting them. Bee-keepers in general are respectfully invited to attend.

H. W. GARRETT, *Pres.*

T. F. C. VAN ALLEN, *Sec.*

The Southern Ky. Bee-keepers' Association, will hold its semi-annual Convention at Caverna, Hart Co. Ky., on the 1st and 2d day of Nov. next. A large attendance is expected. And contributions of apian supplies for exhibition, will be highly appreciated.

N. P. ALLEN, *Pres.*

H. W. SANDERS, *Sec.*

BEE-CULTURE; or Successful Management of the Apiary, by Thomas G. Newman, editor of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL.

This is the title of a new pamphlet of 80 pages, which has been carefully prepared for beginners who desire a cheap work, but one up with the times, to familiarize themselves with the fascinating avocation of the management and care of bees.

It is published both in the English and German languages, and is beautifully illustrated. It is cheap, the price being only 40 cents for it, in either English or German.

It embraces every subject that will interest the beginner. Commencing with a short chapter on the Natural History of the Honey Bee, it passes to the consideration of the Situation Stocking and Arrangement of the Apiary, giving minute details of the management and manipulations necessary to make Bee-Keeping a success. It

describes all the newest discoveries in the art, by which the production of delicious and health-giving Honey is obtained, as well as how to prepare it for the market in the most attractive shape.

We have gotten a nice Label for Crates, with blanks for addressing, as well as to write the name of the shipper. Price, 15 cents per dozen, postpaid; or 75 cents per 100.

BEEES FOR SALE.—See advertisement in last month's JOURNAL. If sold in one lot, I will deduct 10 per cent from the prices there named. D. CLIFTON.

West Bay City, Mich., Sept. 9, 1878.

"The Excelsior Extractor came duly to hand. I took it home and extracted 325 lbs. with it immediately. I am well pleased with its work." G. A. WALRATH.

For nice Comb Honey, in Prize Boxes, we pay the highest market prices.

Honey Markets.

CHICAGO.

HONEY.—The demand for choice lots of comb honey, in single comb boxes is good, and bring from 11¢@12¢ readily; honey in 2 and 3 comb boxes being a drug at 10¢@11¢. Choice extracted honey is quoted at 7¢@8¢; but there is not much demand for it.

BEEESWAX.—Prime choice yellow, 23¢@25¢; darker grades, 18¢@20¢.

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COMB HONEY.—In small boxes, 12¢@15¢. Extracted, 1 lb. jars, in shipping order, per doz., \$2.50; per gross, \$28.00. 2 lb. jars, per doz., \$4.50; per gross, \$54.00.

C. F. MUTH.

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HONEY.—Market dull; anything reasonable accepted. We quote as follows: Comb, white, 11¢@12¢; comb, dark to medium, 8¢@10¢; extracted, 5¢@6¢.

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QUOTATIONS.—Best fancy white comb honey, new, 17¢@20¢; extracted, new, 8¢@10¢; buckwheat comb honey, 13¢@15¢; beeswax, prime, 27¢.

H. K. & F. B. THURBER & Co.

Local Convention Directory.

1878. *Time and Place of Meeting.*
Oct. 1.—Central Kentucky, at Lexington, Ky.
1.—Union Association, at Shelbyville, Ky.
2.—West. Ill. and East. Iowa, at New Boston, Ill.
3.—North-Western Ohio, at Toledo, O.
8.—National Convention, at New York City.
15.—Albany County, N. Y., at Chester, N. Y.
Nov. 1.—Southern Ky., at Caverna, Hart Co., Ky.
11.—Lancaster County, Pa., at Lancaster, Pa.
Dec. 4.—Michigan State, at Grand Rapids, Pa.
1879.
Feb. 14.—South-Western Ohio, at Lebanon, O.

In order to have this Table complete, Secretaries are requested to forward full particulars of time and place of future meetings.—ED.

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